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1975 Statistical Projections Show Banner Year For SBC

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptist Convention churches experienced another banner year in 1975, according to statistical projections indicating nearly \$1.5 billion in total receipts, more than 70,000 additional members in Sunday School, and the third highest number of baptisms in SBC history.

The preliminary estimates, compiled through reports received from 26,066 out of more than 34,700 Southern Baptist churches, indicate increases in total receipts, Sunday School enrollment, baptisms, church membership, mission expenditures, church music enrollment, Woman's Missionary Union enrollment and Brotherhood enrollment.

The only predicted decrease is in Training Union enrollment. However, the decrease is not as

great as it has been the past few years and may indicate a turnaround in enrollment for the organization, Sunday School Board officials said.

The figures, compiled by the SBC Sunday School Board's research services department, should be close to the final official reports to be released in February, 1976, according to Martin B. Bradley, department manager.

At the time the projects were computed, about 8,700 churches had not reported, Bradley said.

Projected baptisms show an increase of two percent for a total of 418,692, the third highest number in SBC history. This marks the fifth consecutive year in which baptisms have exceeded 400,000. The convention has exceeded that mark only nine times in its 130 year history: three times

in the 1950's, once in the 1960's, and five times in the last five years.

It's projected that church membership has continued to increase to a total of 12,716,095 members—a 1.6 percent increase, reflecting a gain of 200,253.

Total financial receipts contin-

ued to increase in 1975, according to church reports. Projections indicate a 10 percent gain, resulting in a total of \$1,477,296,756. This would be an increase of more than \$194 million over last year's figure.

Mission expenditures are expected to increase 10 percent, resulting in a total of \$1,477,296,756. This would be an increase of more than \$194 million over last year's figure.

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Alliance To Send Bibles To USSR

WAKE FOREST, North Carolina — The Baptist World Alliance (BWA) Executive Committee outlined a five-year timetable for its new Division of Evangelism and Education, and approved funds for shipment of 3,000 Bibles to the USSR, November 24 - 25 at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

"We stand on the threshold of unlimited opportunity to the life of the Baptist World Alliance and in the work of Christ," Robert S. Denny, BWA general secretary, told 85 committee members and visitors.

C. Ronald Goulding, BWA associate secretary in London, said the Division of Evangelism and Education will serve as a center for inspiration, cooperation, and resources for Baptists of 141 countries. Goulding will move to the BWA headquarters in Washington, D. C., in 1976 to direct the division, which will need \$45,000 a year to operate.

"New persons for a new world through Jesus Christ" is the proposed theme of the first five

years of the new division. The 1977-78 emphasis is "A people renewed through Bible study." "A people renewed for witness and service" is the 1978-79 follow-up. The 1979-80 emphasis ("Into all the world: a church renewed for mission; people renewed for evangelism") will climax with the 14th Baptist World Congress in July 1980 at Toronto, Canada.

Goulding reported that the Department of Religious Affairs of the USSR has granted permission for importation of 3,000 German-language Bibles in cooperation with the United Bible Societies from Brussels, Belgium, to Estonia, USSR. The BWA Relief Committee voted to give \$3,000 toward the cost of these Bibles.

The committee also voted to fund half the cost, or \$90,000, of replacing a Baptist church building in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia. The committee agreed to apply BWA relief funds to, and appeal for new contributions for, neces-

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Owen Cooper Proposes

\$100 Million Campaign To Assist Seminaries

WAKE FOREST, N. C. (RNS)—The past president of the Southern Baptist Convention is proposing a \$100,000,000 fund-raising campaign to help the six SBC seminaries — and "apologizing for suggesting such a low goal."

Owen Cooper, from Yazoo City, Miss., says a fund drive equivalent to the \$58-million SBC effort in the early 1920s would yield \$2.5 billion in today's terms, given the increased numbers and higher incomes of Southern Baptists.

The SBC Executive Committee is studying the idea, and will report on it at its February meeting.

Mr. Cooper said the "commitment and leadership quality of Southern Baptists for the remainder of the century" will depend largely on the seminary graduates.

SBC seminary professors, Mr. Cooper said, "are among the lowest paid in the nation." He also spoke of the desire of some seminaries to increase their on- and

off-campus programs for non-degree students.

SBC estimates show a need for 2,000 to 3,000 trained persons a year to fill new professional staff positions, with the persons currently being trained in seminaries, colleges and Bible institutes insufficient to meet the demand.

Mr. Cooper said he did not think the three-year special campaign would have a negative effect on contributions by SBC congregations to other on-going Convention-wide fund-raising efforts. "Giving begets giving," he said, "and a pocketbook expanded to permit a large gift never shrinks to its original dimension."

The six SBC seminaries are Golden Gate, Mill Valley, Calif.; Midwestern, Kansas City, Mo.; New Orleans; Southeastern Wake Forest, N. C.; Southern Louisville, Ky.; and Southwestern, Fort Worth, Tex. Enrollment in 1974 was 7,160.

Six Bible Drill Clinics Scheduled For N. Mississippi

Six clinics to train Children's leaders in Church Training for the Children's Bible Drill will be

conducted in the northern quarter of the state on Dec. 15 and 16, according to Kermit S. King, Church Training Department director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

This special training program is intended to promote participation in the Children's Bible Drill, which last year saw an increase both in the number of churches with participants and in the number of boys and girls involved.

Mrs. Joyce Granlee and Reuben Moore of Tupelo and King will be the clinic leaders. Mrs. Granlee has worked with children in Church Training and in the Children's Bible Drill for more than 15 years at Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo.

Moore is the director of Church Training at West Jackson Street Church, Tupelo, and in addition to working with boys and girls there last year has the background of eight years participation in the drills during his childhood and youth.

Three of these conferences are scheduled on December 15. These will be held at First Church, Senatobia; First Church, Ripley; and First Church, Booneville.

The remaining conferences will

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Student Day At Christmas

STUDENT DAY AT CHRISTMAS this year will feature special music in many churches to emphasize missions, worship and Bible study, using the theme "Declaring Christ's Liberating Presence." It is suggested that churches set aside a time in December when college students can participate in a worship service. National Student Ministries of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board sponsors Student Day at Christmas.

Ground Breaking At MC

New Building To House Home Ec, Nursing

Groundbreaking ceremonies are scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 11, at 1:30 p.m. for the Home Economics-School of Nursing Building at Mississippi College. Dr. Lewis Nobles, president of the college, will preside, while Board of Trustees members, faculty and students will participate.

The new building will be located on the northwest corner of College and Capitol Streets. Preliminary dirt work has already been completed for the spacious one-story structure. The building will provide offices, classrooms and auditorium space for the two academic departments of the college.

Dr. Frances McGuffee, chairman of the department and the individual who initiated the home economics curriculum at the college in 1944, views the groundbreaking as "one of the most significant steps forward in the 150-year history of the college."

Dr. McGuffee, who joined the college staff in April, 1944, as an assistant dietician following four years of experience on the high school level, has seen the department expand from a one-person, one-course operation to one today that includes four professors — two with the earned doctorate — and multi areas of specialization within the field.

"It was because Mississippi College had again become coeducational during World War II that the need for home economics at the college became strong," volunteered Dr. McGuffee. "We wouldn't have gotten the program started when we did if it had not been for Mrs. D. M. Nelson, the

college's first lady at that time." Additional courses were offered and the department moved into the basement of Jennings Hall. The department moved into its present quarters in Mary Nelson and Gunter Halls in the early 1950's.

In 1973 the college received full approval for vocational certification and a year later a new program in Early Childhood Development was approved at the state level.

Today home economics majors can select from four specialized areas — education, homemaking, equipment, and clothing merchandising. Plans are already underway to establish a degree in

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Christmas Sparkles At The Village

On Friday and Saturday evenings, December 12 and 13, the Department of Music at The Baptist Children's Village will stage the 11th anniversary production of "Christmas Sparkles at the Village," according to an announcement released by Jan Nix, director of music on the Village staff.

"Christmas Sparkles," choral presentation by the boys and girls at the Village, has become a holiday tradition in metropolitan

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New Executive Committee Meets For First Time

The new Executive Committee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board meets for the first time for organization. Beginning with Rev. Mel Craft, Tylertown, at the end of the table in the foreground and continuing clockwise around the table, the members are Dr. P. A. Michel, Brookhaven, vice-chairman; Rev. Bartis Harper, Morton; Dr. John Barnes, Hattiesburg; Dr. Harold Kitchens, Kosciusko, president of the Convention Board; Dr. John Lee Taylor, Grenada; Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Convention

Board; Dr. Bob Hamblin, Tupelo, chairman of the Executive Committee; Rev. Oliver Ladner, secretary; Rev. Jimmy McGee, McComb; Dr. James Richardson, Leland, president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention; Rev. John Causey, Corinth; Rev. James Hurt, Cleveland; Rev. Roy Myers, Independence; Dr. Ed Gandy, Bruce, secretary of the Convention Board; and Gene Triggs, Yazoo City. Not present was Dr. Russell Bush, Jr., Columbia.

'I Believe In My Denomination,' Says Alabama Pastor

By Dotson M. Nelson, Jr. Pastor Mountain Brook Church, Birmingham, Alabama

(Note: This address was delivered by Dr. Nelson to the Mississippi Baptist Convention at First Church, Jackson, on Tuesday evening, November 11. Dr. Nelson is a former Mississippian.) This is a peculiar subject and perhaps an unpopular one, but I make no apology for it. The subject is my own, and it is a part of the credo which I have developed over forty years of pilgrimage in the ministry.

I believe in my denomination! This I do believe; but this is not all, nor is it my primal belief. Let me explain.

"I believe in Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour and Lord. He is the divine Son of God who became flesh, who lived as no man has ever lived, who taught as no man ever taught, who died on the cross as atonement for my sins, and who lives forever and makes intercession for me at the throne of God. Not very long ago (in of all places) on a golf course I happened to be playing with a stranger to me who, when he found out I was a Baptist preacher, immediately thought he ought to talk about religion. He said, "You don't believe in the virgin birth, do you?" To which I replied, "Yes, I do." He said, "I don't believe

that the record will substantiate your belief." I replied that it was obvious to me that Matthew and Luke believed but that basically my belief was similar to that of the apostle Paul who, when confronted by unprovable questions, had a way of saying, "Something happened to me on the way to Damascus." My new friend replied, "I don't understand." "Oh," I said, "I simply mean that something happened to me in Clinton, Mississippi, when (as Spurgeon put it) 'I looked at Him and He looked at me and we were one forever.'"

II. I believe that as a Christian I am brother to every other Christian. We talk about the

Christian fellowship and some times we fail to recognize that it is a derived fellowship. It is not "I like you and you like me"; but it is rather that we both love the Lord Jesus Christ and on the basis of that love we love each other. This is what the Christian fellowship is all about. There is no way to break it.

III. I believe in the church. Christ died for it. It is referred to as the bride of Christ, the body of Christ, and Christ is the head of the body. It is the people of God — people with a Master, people with a message about that Master, and people with a mission to get the message about the Master to the multi-

tudes. My good friend, Dr. Townley Lord, President of the Baptist World Alliance from 1950 to 1955, visited me in Birmingham in 1962. As he mounted the steps to the airplane to go to Greenville, South Carolina and Furman University's teaching program, he gave me some unforgettable last words, for six weeks later he died. He said, "Dotson, say a good word for the church." I have tried to do that. And a good word needs to be said in every pulpit and in every conversation.

IV. But, having these beliefs, I must go on to say I believe in my denomination. As a senior in Mississippi College, much to

my surprise (and the mystery continues) God called me to preach. He did not call me to be a Baptist preacher although my sainted father and lovely mother were Baptists. I spent the summer of 1935 studying Hodge's Presbyterian law, Wesley's journals, Martin Luther's sermons, and Calvin's institutes. I then read a simple little book called The Axioms of Religion by E. Y. Mullins and two ancient study course books which said for me that I was to be a Baptist. I suppose that the things which brought me to this conclusion were a belief in the authority and adequacy of the Scriptures, be-

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1975 Statistical Projections

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pected to increase nine percent, gaining nearly \$20 million for a total of \$239,134,043.

Sunday School enrollment is expected to add 79,099 members in 1975 for a total of 7,269,923. This projected figure includes the highest number of "new" Sunday School members since 1961. In 1972, Sunday School experienced its first gain in seven years and has continued to increase since that time.

According to projections, church music enrollment climbed by 45,642 members in 1975 for a 3.5 percent increase and total of 1,340,710. This marks the 10th straight

year that church music enrollment has shown a gain. Church music has gained over 477,000 members in that 10-year period for a yearly average of 47,700.

As reported by SBC churches, Training Union enrollment appears to be slowing its decreasing enrollment trend. The 1975 ongoing enrollment projections, which do not include new member, leader training, or short term member training registration, showed a 1.4 percent decrease compared to 2.3 percent decrease last year and

a 4.6 percent loss in 1973. Training Union enrollment decreased by 26,670 members in 1973. The projected ongoing enrollment in Training Union is 1,878,316.

WMU enrollment is expected to increase for the second straight year following 10 years of decrease. The statistics indicate that WMU gained 13,382 members — 1.2 percent — for a total of 1,128,531.

Brotherhood enrollment is expected to increase 3.4 percent. A gain of 15,664 Brotherhood mem-

bers is projected for a total enrollment of 476,377.

The preliminary figures were reached by computing the actual reports of 26,066 churches and then projecting, through statistical means, the expected reports from the remaining 8,700 churches, said Bradley.

Weighting factors were added to give an acceptable degree of accuracy to these projected figures for planning and decision-making purposes in the denomination, he concluded.



Hurley Church pastor, Kenny Garner, and his family visit with Mr. Lee at the church's Thanksgiving supper. Mr. Lee is a deck cadet aboard the m-v Asia Industry.

MC Ground Breaking

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dietetics which would allow majors approval from the American Dietetics Association.

Greek Course To Be Taught At Baptist Building

A four-semester hour Greek course will be offered beginning Jan. 12 at the Baptist Building in Jackson. It will be taught each Monday at 12:30 p.m. by an instructor from Blue Mountain College, and it will meet the Greek requirements for the doctor of ministries program.

Those interested in this course should contact Dr. Harold Fisher, president, Blue Mountain College or Therman V. Bryant at the Baptist Building.

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad — a team of three doctors, five dentists and five nurses saw over 4,500 patients during their recent two-week stay here, according to David L. Martin, Southern Baptist missionary. They held six clinics and gave away thousands of dollars worth of medicines. The group was organized by Lawton Kiser, director of mission outreach at Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga. Most of the team came from the Wieuca Road church. Some also came from nearby towns.

Dr. R. G. Lee To Preach Famous Sermon At Ridgeland Church Dec. 14

Dr. Robert G. Lee will preach his world-renowned sermon "Payday Someday" at the Ridgeland Church, Ridgeland, on Sunday evening, December 14, at 7 p.m.

At the morning service at 11 o'clock, on the same day he will preach on "Beautifying the Teachings of Jesus."

Dr. Lee is pastor emeritus of Bellevue Church in Memphis, and a past president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The famous sermon has been preached all over America, and even in other lands. It is printed in a book, recorded on tape, and a motion picture was made of his preaching it.

Rev. W. Everett Martin, pastor of the church, says that the day has been designed as "Spectacular Sunday" in the Ridgeland Church, and that record attendance is anticipated.

Permission Granted In Poland To Print 50,000 Copies Of Bible

NEW YORK, Dec. 1 — The Polish government recently granted the Bible Society in Poland permission to print and distribute 50,000 copies of a new translation of the Bible. It is intended to give Polish readers a more modern translation than the influential Gdansk Bible, which was issued in 1832.

Distribution of the new Bible began on September 1. The translation was sponsored by the eight Protestant and Orthodox churches in the Polish Ecumenical Council. It strives to make the Biblical text available in a form of contemporary Polish suitable for both study and worship services.

The new translation was printed by the Bible Society in Poland on paper supplied by the United Bible Societies. The paper was purchased through donations received from the UBC supporting societies including the American Bible Society. Interest in the new Bible has been so great that the Bible Society in Poland received 10,000 advance orders before distribution commenced.

The new translation is known as the Millennium Bible. When the four Gospels in the new version were first published in 1964, Poland was celebrating the 1,000 year anniversary of the advent of Christianity into Poland. It was decided to name the new translation in commemoration of this event. The New Testament was published in 1966 and the Book of Psalms in 1971.

The Bible Society in Poland was founded in 1816 as a branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society and has operated continuously ever since except for temporary interruptions during the two world wars. The Society's bookstore in Warsaw is the only Bible

BWA To Send . . .

(Continued from page 1)

sary renovation of a Baptist church in Chelm Lubelski, Poland; a roof for a church in Budapest, Hungary; an evangelism bus for the Polish Baptist Union; and Christmas parcels for pastors in countries with poverty level ministerial salaries.

The Wake Forest meeting was the fourth time the BWA Executive Committee (formerly Administrative Subcommittee) has met outside the BWA headquarters city of Washington to introduce the leaders and work of the Alliance to more areas of the country. About 350 North Carolinians attended a BWA Rally at the First Baptist Church of Raleigh. Hosts for the rally were the General Baptist State Convention and the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

Baptists of Germany, Canada, Australia, and Jamaica, and most of the BWA representatives from the USA, experienced their first "Pig Picking" when seminary president W. Randall Lolley hosted an outdoor pork roast at his campus home.

North Carolinians and BWA leaders were urged to support the Alliance's expanding programs as "Friends of the Alliance." W. A. Criswell, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, presented the appeal as chairman of a newly organized "Friends" committee.

The Executive Committee approved guidelines to adapt the regional organizations and departments of the BWA and its constitution revised at the Baptist World Congress in July 1975. Representatives of BWA regional organizations and departments for men, women, and youth presented reports to the committee.

The committee approved a transfer of the BWA European office from London to some city in Germany in October 1976 when Gerhard Claas of West Germany replaces Goulding as BWA associate secretary in Europe.

Goulding and Claas briefed BWA leaders on European Baptist work. The European Baptist Federation will meet in "socialist" countries for the first time in 1976 when its Executive meets March 24-28 at Moscow, USSR, and when its Council meets September 17-20 at Budapest, Hungary.

bookstore to the country. It supplies many Scriptures by mail in response to requests stimulated by Christian radio programs broadcast from Western Europe and heard in Poland.

Since Vatican II the Bible Society has been serving larger numbers of Roman Catholics as well as its historic constituency among the Protestant and Orthodox churches. Many Roman Catholic leaders are encouraging their people to buy and read the new translation.

The Polish Ecumenical Council and the Bible Society in Poland are also sponsoring another modern Polish translation of the new Testament along the lines of the American Bible Society's "Good News for Modern Man" (the New Testament in the Today's English Version). Publication of this translation is projected for 1977.

Bible Drill . . .

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be held on Dec. 16, at First Church, Marks; First Church, Oxford; and Ecru Church, Ecru. Starting time is 7 p.m.

The Children's Bible Drill is a program to teach older children the books of the Bible, develop skill in finding Bible passages, lead them to learn the location of key passages in the Bible, and lead them to memorize significant verses, King pointed out.

Louisiana College Refuses \$137,000 In State Aid

PINEVILLE, La. (BP) — The Louisiana College board of trustees unanimously passed a recommendation by Robert L. Lynn, president of the college, to decline acceptance of more than \$137,000 in state aid.

The board agreed with an earlier statement by Lynn that he felt the Baptist school could not accept the governmental appropriation because such action directly violated the traditional stand by the Louisiana Baptist Convention on separation of church and state.

Lynn was recently inaugurated as Louisiana College's sixth president in ceremonies at the college's Guinn Auditorium.

Flesh Is Weak
Many people talk economy, but only a few have the will - power to practice it.

Deflated
Today's dollar may talk, but it doesn't have cents enough to talk very intelligently.

Hurley Shares Holiday With Korean Seamen

Hurley Church in Jackson County shared its Thanksgiving celebration with Korea this year. Pastor Kenny Garner and Language Missionary Paul Vandercook visited with seamen aboard the Asia Industry, a ship for Japan, early Wednesday afternoon and invited men to attend the meal and fellowship at the church.

A typical American Thanksgiving meal of turkey and dressing awaited the eight men from Korea who accepted the invitation. As they ate they shared experiences with their American hosts and made new friends.

After the meal the young Koreans joined the youth of Hurley Church for a fellowship period.

Youth from America sang American choruses and Koreans countered with their own folk songs. While neither could understand the words of the other's songs the language barrier was crossed by smiles and hand clapping.

Mr. Lee, a deck cadet, expressed the feeling of the seamen during a follow-up visit to the ship. He said, "We thank you for letting us share your holiday and I thank you for telling me about Jesus."

Christmas Sparkles At Village

(Continued from page 1)

Jackson. The Children's Village reports that the 1975 performances will include, as usual, combined choirs from the Village's Department of Music, aggregating 145 boys and girls, ranging in age from 5 to 18 years. "The Villagers," a popular Village choral ensemble, will be featured.

This year's production will be presented at 7:30 p.m., December 12 and 13, in Hester Activities Building on the Jackson campus of The Baptist Children's Village. Approximately one-half of each evening's entertainment will be devoted to sacred music of the season, with the remaining half being popular Christmas tunes, skits and sketches, and novelty numbers offered by active Village

wards of all ages — all with a holiday flavor. No admission is charged and the public is invited.

The administration at The Children's Village has announced adequate seating and sound provisions under improved conditions and every seat in the building will be a good one.

Music, including choral music, is employed at the Village as an organized, full-time department of therapy to the neglected and dependent boys and girls in custodial care. The Baptist Children's Village is the official Mississippi Baptist child care agency, owned and operated by Southern Baptist churches of Mississippi, through Mississippi Baptist Convention. The Village and its children have been a part of the Jackson scene since May, 1897.

Southwestern Adds Mississippian To Faculty

FORT WORTH (BP) — The board of trustees of Southwestern Seminary, in semi-annual meeting here, added two new faculty members, elected board officers, approved a salary supplement for faculty and staff and discussed a planned \$8 million fund raising campaign.

The board named Eddie C. Smith as associate professor of Christian ethics and Tom J. Nettles as assistant professor of church.



Tom J. Nettles holds the master of divinity degree from Southwestern Seminary and is completing requirements on the doctor

of philosophy degree at Southwestern. He has served churches in Jackson, Miss.; Alvarado, Tex.; and Cleburne, Tex. He is the son of Mrs. Clyde Nettles, employee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Smith, a missionary with the Foreign Mission Board since 1960, is on the faculty of the Baptist Seminary in Semarang, Indonesia. He is a native Texan.

Recognizing the efforts of continued inflation, the trustees authorized a special inflation equalization salary supplement of about eight percent of annual salary, effective for all faculty and staff in January.

A major portion of the meeting involved discussion of the planned fund raising campaign to secure \$8 million by 1980. To dramatize their personal and group interest in the campaign, the trustees adopted a goal of \$160,000 — two percent of the \$8 million — to be raised among themselves.

'I Believe In My Denomination,' Says Alabama Pastor

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belief in a free church in a free state, belief in baptism by immersion only for believers only, belief in local congregational government, and the right and responsibility of every individual to make his own decisions in matters religious.

When I decided to follow my call in the Baptist ministry, I had not made my last decision. That I made consciously and with conviction as a pastor in Kansas City, Missouri. There I had to decide, and it was a difficult and prayerful decision, that I could best serve my God on a firmer basis, with more lasting effect in and through my denomination than I could by standing outside it and criticizing it. I decided that I would buy the right to help my denomination to become what it ought to be by being

the most cooperative, loyal Baptist that I could be and to lead my churches so to be. To that end churches of which I have been pastor increased their gifts to the Cooperative Program each year since 1946. Not that alone, but churches where I have been pastor have not uncommonly had their total complement of messengers at state conventions and Southern Baptist Conventions.

What is the Baptist denomination anyway? Let me give you my definition. It is that part of the family of God who take seriously the Bible, the competency of the individual soul, and personal experiential salvation which issues in noble works; who believe in the ordinances as symbols of great truth, and the churches cooperating in global tasks bound together not by creed or credal statements but by a unity in diversity to do together what we could not do so

well separately.

This unity in diversity which draws us together and enables the denomination to be used of God is of two kinds. First, it is the derived fellowship from a similar love for the Lord Jesus. Thus we love each other and work together not so much because we look alike, worship alike, or believe in rigid patterns or subscribe to rock hard creeds. We certainly do not have fellowship because we are lovable. We do fuss and fume and fight among ourselves. But we betide the outsiders who pick on any of the brothers and sisters! Here we would do well to remember that Baptists are not a credal people. There are those today both outside and inside our organized Baptist work whose theology may be acceptable but whose ecclesiology and belief in the church has no home in Baptist belief and practice.

The landmark controversy is being resurrected, and high church Baptists are being heard from. Such high "churchiness" may cling to the letter of the law but deny the Spirit of Christ.

Second, we need to remember that the churches in 1845, meeting in Augusta, Georgia, were organized to elicit, combine, and direct their energies toward missions, education, and benevolence. My friend Earl Cooper, pastor now of the Riverside Church in Jacksonville, Florida, says there are two reasons why Baptists stay together. One, Baptists are a people who work, who do things, who have an eternal vigilance in carrying out the Great Commission. Two, Baptists believe vehemently and passionately in the principle of freedom giving them a unique understanding of the nature of men, his greatness in and by God's grace, and his limitations be-

cause he is still human. Robert McCall went into the slums of Paris knowing two French phrases in translation meaning "I love you" and "God loves you."

There is a story which has meant much to me. It is the story of Sadie Virginia Smithson of Johnson City, Virginia. She was the daughter of the operator of a livery stable. She was the town seamstress. Her one great ambition was to become a member of the Laurel Literary Society, but that seemed quite impossible. She thought to herself, "If I can save my money and go to Europe, that will make me unique in this town." So she did and she did. While she was in Belgium, World War I broke out. As her chauffeur, seeking to get her to Paris, lost his way, they came upon the edge of a battlefield. A soldier cried, "Help me! Help me!" Sadie went to his side, brought him

water in a collapsible drinking cup, bound up his wounds with material torn from her dress. To another she went, and another, and another, working the long night through. After dawn the next day a young shavetail lieutenant came by and said, "What in the world are you doing here?" Sadie replied, "I have been holding back hell all night." She told a shipboard friend on the way home her story. The friend replied, "Well, surely now, when they hear this, the Laurel Literary Society will make you an honorary member." But Sadie replied, "You don't understand. It doesn't matter now. I have seen suffering and pain and dying and God. Nothing matters to me now but loving God and helping people." The great avenue by which I have found to love God and help people is through my denomination. I believe in it, and I will serve it till I die.

Other Conventions

Michigan

MARQUETTE, Mich. (BP) — Michigan Southern Baptists passed a resolution dealing with the urgency of the world hunger situation and an accompanying motion calling for an offering of at least \$100,000 for world hunger at the Southern Baptist Convention's national meeting next June in Norfolk.

The Baptist State Convention of Michigan also approved a \$1.29 million budget and elected a new president, Richard Rogers, pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, Lansing, Mich.

Penn.-Jersey

CAMP HILL, Pa. (BP) — The Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania - South Jersey elected a pastor from Pittsburgh as president and set a 1976 annual budget of \$662,128 during the convention's annual session here.

Calvin Dailey, pastor of Pittsburgh Baptist Church, was elected president, succeeding Frank E. Bowman of Camp Hill, Pa.

Kentucky

ELIZABETHTOWN, Ky. (BP) — Messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention expressed displeasure with the Equal Rights Amendment and took action on the convention's child care ministry.

The item receiving the most emotional response was the resolution opposing the ERA, which the Kentucky state General Assembly has already approved.

Maryland

FREDERICK, Md. (BP) — Messengers to the Baptist Convention of Maryland unanimously resolved to "call upon all Baptists everywhere to practice Christian love and patience towards those with whom we may disagree in the interpretation of Bible passages relating to the value and validity of charismatic practices."

The convention also passed a resolution denouncing creedalism, refused to increase a previously approved outlay of funds for capital development at the convention's Skycroft retreat camping center, set a \$1.25 million Cooperative Program budget and re-elected Charles Casey, pastor of Calverton Baptist Church in suburban Washington, as president.

Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (BP) — The first \$1 million budget in its history as adopted by messengers to the 17th annual meeting of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana at Speedway Terrace Baptist Church here.

The messengers set a \$1,089,410 budget for 1976.

In other action, the Indiana convention's executive board was authorized to develop plans for a capital funds campaign to construct Highland Lakes Baptist Center, Monrovia, Ind. If the campaign is formulated, a special session of the state convention will be called at a later date.

Northern Plains

RAPID CITY, S. D. (BP) — Messengers from churches in four states comprising the Northern Plains Baptist Convention adopted a half-million-dollar budget and elected a new president in annual session here.

Thomas Sherrill, pastor of North Hill Baptist Church, Minot, N. D., is new president of the convention which covers both Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming.

The convention set a 1976 budget of \$525,756.

Colorado

COLORADO SPRINGS (BP) — Messengers to the Colorado Baptist General Convention celebrated the convention's 20th anniversary, elected a new president, and set an annual budget in excess of \$1 million in annual sessions here.

Otis Testerman, pastor of Bookcliff Baptist Church, Grand Junction, Colo., was elected president.

Messengers set a \$1,800,000 budget.

Kansas-Nebraska

TOPEKA, Kan. (BP) — The Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists passed a resolution disapproving the action of the United Nations General Assembly equating Zionism to racism and adopted a proposal to start a building campaign for a state convention office building in Topeka.

The convention also adopted its first budget topping \$1 million and re-elected Luther Berry, pastor of Pleasantview Baptist Church, Derby, Kan., as president.

Florida

SARASOTA, Fla. (BP) — The Florida Baptist State Convention, in annual session here, commended Florida Gov. Reubin Askew for his stand against gambling, voted a record budget, and voted to take part in a special emphasis for doctrinal study.

Expected debate over the intention of Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, to begin a degree program in September, 1976, did not materialize.

The convention voted a record \$6.7 million budget, allotting 47 percent of that amount to the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program. For eight years, Florida Baptists have led all other Baptist state conventions in percentage of giving to SBC causes.

California

REDDING, Calif. — Messengers to the Southern Baptist General Convention of California passed resolutions against prostitution, homosexuality, and alcoholism, voted a \$4.4 million annual budget and elected a new president in deliberations here.

They also heard of plans for joint Bicentennial celebrations with black and white Baptists June 4, 1976, in San Francisco and June 8, 1976, in Los Angeles.

The new president is Jack Johnson, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, El Monte.



1st, Quitman To Build New Plant

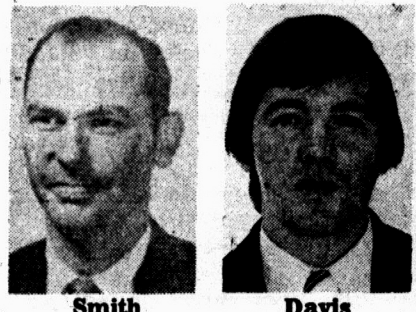
Members of First Church, Quitman recently participated in groundbreaking ceremonies at the site of new sanctuary, education, and recreation facilities. The principal contractor, Construction Services, Inc. of Meridian, anticipates completion of the project within a year to eighteen months. Leadership in the building program has been furnished by Rev. Ed North, pastor, second from left; Joe Blair, Building Committee Chairman, second from right; Tally D. Riddell, left, Building Finance Committee Chairman; and Jim Blair, right, Chairman of the Deacon Board. Financing of the \$300,000 project has been greatly aided by a highly successful "Together We Build" campaign which raised approximately \$300,000 in cash and pledges.

31 MK's In Mississippi

Mississippi has thirty-one missionary kids in various colleges and universities this year. The MKs are:

Home Missionary Kids

Norma Rivero, Clarke College, Newton, MS 39345; Christy Lyle, Box 4908, MC, Clinton, MS 39058; Christy Lyle, Box 4908, MC Clinton, Ms. 39058.



Two Elected To N. O. Faculty

(New Orleans) — Dr. Billie K. Smith and Dr. Cos H. Davis, Jr. were elected to the faculty of New Orleans Seminary by members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Billie K. Smith, a native of Sparksville, Louisiana, was elected associate professor of Old Testament and Hebrew.

Dr. Cos H. Davis, Jr. from Oceana, West Virginia was named assistant professor of childhood education.

In other action the Trustees approved the completion of a covered walkway from the newly completed library unit to the entrance of Leavell Chapel.

The Board also heard plans proposing a new approach to offering the Diploma of Pastoral Ministries to candidates who do not hold undergraduate degrees.

In final action, the committee accepted the resignation of Dr. Kelva Moore, professor of History and Philosophy of Education. The resignation was given on the grounds of poor health. Following the acceptance of Dr. Moore's resignation, the board voted to confer the title of Professor Emeritus on Dr. Moore.

Foreign Missionary Kids

Belhaven College: Abigail Smith, Box 388, BC, Jackson MS 39202.

Blue Mountain College: Rebecca Gray, Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, MS 38610.

Clarke College: Thomas James Jacobs, Clarke College, Newton, MS 39345.

Mississippi College: Virginia Applewhite, Box 4619, Clinton, MS 39058; Nancy Calcote, Box 4672, Clinton, MS 39058; Mrs. Patricia Miller Ethridge, 514 1/2 Maniship, Jackson, MS 39202; Deborah Jean Glaze, Box 4283, Clinton, MS 39058; Michael Stephens Glaze, Box 4283 Clinton, MS 39058; Mrs. Melinda Henderson Kyzar, Box 4381, Clinton, MS 39058; John M. Hollifield, Box 4119; Kolb, Box 4774, Clinton, MS 39058; Marcus P. Marler, Box 4577, Clinton, MS 39058; Johnnie Clair Scholard, Box 4553, Clinton, MS 39058; Jeanne Smith, Box 4687, Clinton, MS 39058; Keith Morgan Stamps, Box 4344, Clinton, MS 39058; Deborah Lee Trott, Box 4156, Clinton, MS 39058; John Allen Trott, Box 4156, Clinton, MS 39058; Margaret D. Whitten, Box 4725, Clinton, MS 39058.

Mississippi State University: James P. Gilbert, Jr., Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS 39762; James Allen Watson, Box 1851, MSU, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

Gulf Coast Junior College: Daniel E. Lee, Box 379, GCJC, Perkinston Campus, Perkinston, MS 39373.

University of Southern Mississippi: Mary Hollifield, Box 2406, USM, Hattiesburg, MS 39401; Ellen Mayhall, 867 Adams Drive, Greenville, MS 38701; Elizabeth Williams, Route 2, Box 69, Columbia, MS 39429; Miriam J. Williams, Route 2, Box 69, Columbia, MS 39429.

William Carey College: Dina Beth Bateman, Box 608, WCC, Hattiesburg, MS 39401; David Davis, Box 771, WCC, Hattiesburg, MS 39401; Daniel A. Howell, William Carey College, Hattiesburg, MS 39401; Charles A. Moore, Box 471, WCC, Hattiesburg, MS 39401.

500 Accept Christ In Argentine Crusade

GUALEGUAYCHU, Argentina (BP) — Five hundred people — equivalent to about half the total number of members of participating churches — accept Christ in an evangelistic campaign in October in Argentina's Entre Rio Province.

The campaign, part of the Baptist World Alliance's "World Mission of Reconciliation through Jesus Christ," was led in local Baptist churches by pastors and lay persons from Texas, California, and Virginia. Southern Baptist missionaries served as interpreters.

"In some of the churches, the number of professions of faith were double the number of members," says James O. Teel Jr., Southern Baptist missionary to Argentina.

The campaign took place in a country involved in "political unrest, revolutionary activity, and overwhelming economic prob-

lems," says Teel. "The campaign was not without its bizarre incidents. The largest extremist operation yet attempted in Argentina took place in a neighboring province just before the campaign started. The zeal of local police to help track them down caused more than normal search operations on the highways as the groups traveled to their churches."

Teel praised the "self-effacing humility and conviction" of the people from the States in that setting as they witnessed to the "victory, peace, and happiness" which can be found "if you turn your life over to Jesus."

A month before the campaign, Witness Involvement Now (WIN) schools, a Southern Baptist personal evangelism training method, were held in many of the churches. The schools were led by people from the States. Over 100 people accepted Christ during the schools.

Baptist Youth Night Music Personalities Announced

Music, as always, will be emphasized during the Mississippi Baptist Youth Night Dec. 29 in the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson. Out-of-state personalities will play major roles in the music, but Mississippians will be used extensively.

The new Junior Miss for Jackson, Rita Wood, a member of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Jackson, will present a special music during the early portion of the program, which begins at 8:50 p.m. She will sing "Eternal Life" and "My Tribute."

The theme for the program will be "Mississippi Baptist Youth... God's Instrument for America."

Chuck Endsley, the organist at Temple Baptist Church in Hattiesburg and a student at William Carey College there, will be the organist for the program. Steve Roddy, a student at Auburn University in Alabama from First Baptist Church, Jackson, will be the pianist. These two musicians will present a 20-minute concert of instrumental music beginning at 8:30.

Leading the congregational music will be Elwyn C. Raymer, the vice president and general manager of Triune Music, Inc., in Nashville, Tenn. He has been music director in churches in Kentucky, Arkansas, and Texas and music editor and recording specialist with Broadman Press in Nashville. He has been on the faculty of Baylor University in Waco, Texas, and Belmont College in Nashville. He is a graduate of Georgetown Baptist College, Georgetown, Ky., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

The Stone Brothers, a vocal and instrumental trio, are from Samford University in Birmingham, Ala. Rick is 21 and a senior music

major. Randy is 20 years of age and a junior. He is to do church-related work in youth and recreation. Rodney is 19 and a freshman. In addition to their style of singing, which has been compared with that of The Lettermen, the boys play trio arrangements on trumpets.

The speaker will be the Rev. Dr. James Pleitz, pastors of First Baptist Church of Pensacola, Fla. He is pastor president of the Southern Baptist Pastor's Conference and has been president of the Florida Baptist Convention.

Corrie ten Boom Cassette Tape Available

The message Corrie ten Boom delivered at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson on Sunday afternoon, October 26, now is available on cassette tape.

The tape may be ordered from Mr. James Carr, P. O. Box 1059, Jackson, Miss., 39205, or may be bought at Maranatha Book Store in Maywood Mall in Jackson.

The cost is \$3.00 per tape, whether ordered by mail or purchased at the bookstore.

D'Amico Accepts Post At South Main Church

HOUSTON (BP) — David Franklin D'Amico, assistant professor of church history at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary since 1968, will join South Main Baptist Church, Houston, as minister of international work and pastor of its Spanish Baptist congregation.

Names In The News

Rev. A. Bolling Kelly III was ordained by Steep Hollow Church, Bryan, Texas, earlier this fall. He was licensed by First, Yazoo City on August 8, 1971. A graduate of Mississippi State Univ., he will receive his Master of



Theology degree from Southwestern Seminary on Dec. 19, 1975. He is presently pastor of Steep Hollow Church, going there in July. Previously he had served as minister of youth at First Church, McKinney, Texas. He is married to the former Marsha McGee of Trinidad, Texas. Mr. Kelly is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Kelly of Yazoo City, and the grandson of Mrs. J. C. Holton, of Jackson, and the late Dr. and Mrs. A. B. Kelly of Yazoo City.

Georgia Mae Ogburn, missionary to Chile, is on furlough (address: c/o W. B. Ross, 3219 Highland Ave., Meridian, Miss. 39301).



Hansel Huff, right, and Bob Toney, left, were ordained as deacons of Mt. Pleasant Church, Route 2, Gloster, on November 30. Rev. Gary Bowlin, center, pastor of Mt. Pleasant, preached the ordination sermon. Janet Whitington and Mrs. Carolyn Toney furnished special music.

First Church of Lyman has called Roger Haynes, son of Rev. and Mrs. Jim Haynes, Biloxi, as minister of music. Roger is employed at Frigitemp Marine Corporation, Gulfport, as project engineer. His father is pastor of Forrest Avenue Church, Biloxi. His brother, Rev. James W. Haynes, is pastor of Emmanuel Church, Ocean Springs. Rev. A. H. Wegger is pastor of First, Lyman.

Oil producer and active Christian layman, Jack Stack, of Meridian, was Convocation speaker for Campbellsville College, Campbellsville, Ky., on November 20. Mr. Stack is a native of Texas and attended the University of Texas.

Dennis Kissinger has accepted the call of Parkway Church, Natchez, to become minister of music and youth, effective, December 29. Born in North Carolina, he grew up in St. Petersburg, Fla. He is a graduate of Stetson University and Southern Seminary. Mrs. Kissinger (Peggy), native of Florida, is presently interim educational director and educational secretary at Fairview Church, Columbus. She is also a special worker in Children's Sunday School work for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The Kissingers have three children: Shannon, 11, Damon, 9 and Wes, 4.



Mrs. Muriel F. Blackwell, editor of children's materials for five years, recently was named supervisor of the children's section in the Sunday School department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.



department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.



Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Deaton recently received their Sunday School seven year perfect attendance pins. Members of Southside Church, Jackson, the couple has been active there since 1952. Their perfect attendance record of many years was marred eight years ago when they were both hospitalized following an accident. Mrs. Deaton has served as a Sunday School teacher while Mr. Deaton has served as chairman of ushers and a deacon for many years. Mr. Jim and Miss Mamie, as they are affectionally called, have been an inspiration to many through the years. For several years they were houseparents at the Baptist Children's Village. Prior to Mr. Deaton's retirement a few years ago he was employed by the City of Jackson. In August of this year friends of the Deatons honored them with a reception on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Dr. Fred D. Fowler is pastor of Southside.

Rev. Thomas L. Bonds, pastor of Sardis Lake (Panola) has been selected for inclusion in the 1975 edition of Outstanding Young Men of America. He graduated from Mississippi College in 1973 and became pastor at Sardis Lake in 1974. He is now also attending Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

Rev. Roger Lee, who is now pastor of Clear Branch (Rankin) near Florence, was ordained to the ministry November 16 by Shivers Church, Simpson County. Rev. Marvin Cox, pastor of Bethlehem Church, brought the charge to the candidate. Rev. Nelson Fortenberry, Shivers pastor, delivered the charge to the church. Eight visiting deacons and preachers were present.



The three recipients of the National Conference of Christians and Jews' Charles Evans Hughes Award, from left, former Virginia Governor Linwood Holton, former Arkansas Congressman Brooks Hays, and Ambassador Robert D. Murphy, are joined by NCCJ President David Hyatt (right). The award is given annually for "courageous leadership in governmental, civic and humanitarian affairs." Mr. Hays, a past president of the Southern Baptist Convention, was cited for his accomplishments in civil rights and for promoting educational and economic opportunities and ecumenical exchange. — (RNS Photo)



Donald Ray Jordan, left, 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Jordan of State Line, was recently licensed to the gospel ministry by First Church of State Line. Rev. Donald Campbell, right, pastor, presented the license. Mr. Jordan, a student at Jones County Junior College, is available for supply preaching. He may be contacted c/o Rev. Donald Campbell, Route 2, State Line 39362 or by phone at 948-2841.



The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

Guest Editorial

Church Cooperation

R. C. Blair in Baptist Herald, publication of Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College, Mayfield, Ky. (One of a series of articles on the Baptist Faith and Message.)

The purpose of a body of Christ is to manifest Him to the world! You may speak of an "invisible" church all you wish; the major problem with far too many churches today is that they have too many invisible members! What we need are local, visible Bible-believing churches, each one clearly making Christ known in their community by an aggressive program of evangelism and throughout the world by a coordinated missionary effort.

Southern Baptists are a voluntary people. The more than 34,000 local congregations that cooperate in what is called the Southern Baptist Convention are autonomous under Christ. He is the Head; the members, scripturally saved and baptized, make up the body, a continuing incarnation in each locality. As the statement of the Baptist Faith and Message indicates, a New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is a local body of baptized believers who are associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing, the two ordinances of Christ, committed to His teachings, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth.

This church is an autonomous body, operating through democratic processes under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. In such a congregation members are equally responsible. Its Scriptural officers are pastors and deacons.

To be sure, some of these local congregations, since they are self-governing, may depart into heresy. When you hear of a Southern Baptist church teaching something contrary to the Bible, if you are not a Southern Baptist, or if you do not understand the freedom each congregation has in our cooperative work, you may react by saying, "The Southern Baptist Convention is full of heretics!" And for this reason some have left Southern Baptist work.

But there is an alternative! A church may remain active in its Southern Baptist association, in the state convention, and in the Southern Baptist Convention without adopting the beliefs and practices of the few who should change the Biblical standards of the past. In fact, most Southern Baptist Convention churches are doing just that. If you hear an accusation against the Southern Baptist Convention, please don't hold it against that convention-related church near you. They may be, and probably are, a doctrinally sound fellowship of scripturally baptized believers.

But, someone says, if they are, how can they stay in the convention with apostates? Well, why not

let the liberals leave? It isn't their convention, after all! It was built with the dollars and dedication of Bible-believers, who are still in the majority. And a growing group of those conservatives are joining together to expose modernism and liberalism in their convention, leading to a restoration of the evangelistic and missionary thrust of the days of Southern Baptists' greatest growth when all our leaders were glad to affirm the infallibility of Scripture.

Another important way to keep Southern Baptists from going down the detour of modernism, liberalism, and the social substitute gospel is by building strong local churches, each with an earnest evangelistic thrust, winning the lost to Christ in their communities. The doctrine of the church is not just a matter of doctrine; it is also a fully practical matter, important as the evangelistic agent of the Lord Jesus Christ.

When Does Your Record Arrive?

When do you receive your Baptist Record?

Of course, some of you in distant states, probably do not receive the paper until the next week after publication, and those overseas much later than that. Most of our readers, however, are Mississippians, and should receive the paper within a day or two after it is mailed.

Despite our best efforts to expedite the mailing, we continue to receive complaints from Mississippians that they are not receiving their paper until Saturday, and some, even Monday or Tuesday of the week following publication.

We do not know how to explain this situation, except to say that the papers are being delayed somewhere in the postal distribution. All Baptist Records except about 1200 copies which must be individually wrapped, are in the mails BEFORE noon on Wednesday. Even the 1200 copies which require special wrapping are mailed Wednesday afternoon. Moreover, all of the Records, except the small group, are properly addressed, and placed in mail bags by the printer, with the bag bearing the zip code of the destination of all those papers. They are not handled in any post office until they are opened for distribution to carriers in the office of destination. The printer carries about 400 mail bags to the mail truck distribution center, so they can be placed on the proper truck. In the light of all of this we can see no reason why every paper in Mississippi should not be delivered by Friday or Saturday.

Yet, some readers are experiencing delay in receiving their papers. We have discussed this with the Jackson office, and the officials here are interested in helping us solve the problem. If your paper is reaching you late, please write us, so the matter may be investigated. Be assured that we are trying to get the paper to you on time.

sense, yet are outlined studies with enough material to give the preacher, teacher or student, an understanding of the meaning and main message of every chapter of the New Testament (except as noted) and of what usually are considered the most important sections and chapters of the Old Testament. This is splendid, well prepared, solidly conservative material, which should be of great value to preachers and laymen alike.

INVITATION TO ADVENTURE by R. E. O. White (Baker, 228 pp., \$5.95) Fifty-two contemporary sermon suggestions—brief sermons which a minister could easily expand into full messages. The texts are predominantly from the New Testament, but four are from Psalms.

FROM DAY TO DAY, A MESSAGE FROM THE BIBLE FOR EACH DAY OF THE YEAR by Frank E. Gaebelstein, 195 pp., \$2.95) Former head of The Stonybrook School in New York and now retired, Dr. Gaebelstein shares what he has learned from the Scriptures about serving God in the responsibilities of everyday life.

DREAM A NEW DREAM, HOW TO REBUILD A BROKEN LIFE by Dale E. Galloway (Tyndale House, \$4.95, 128 pp.) When Mr. Galloway writes of lives being

WOMAN'S LIBERATION

CHRISTIANITY

THE CONSTITUTION

HOLY BIBLE



"YE HAVE BEEN CALLED UNTO LIBERTY, ONLY USE NOT LIBERTY FOR AN OCCASION TO THE FLESH, BUT BY LOVE SERVE ONE ANOTHER."—GAL. 5:13

INSEPARABLE

THE BAPTIST FORUM

The Simmons To Move To Philippines

Dear Dr. Odle,

We would like to let our friends in Mississippi know that we will be moving to Baguio, Philippines, in January. I will teach New Testament and Greek at the Philippine Baptist Theological Seminary for the remainder of this term of service (three more years) after being in Hong Kong one year. Mary will also teach music there, and we are both thrilled with the challenge of our new work.

Our transfer is effective January 1, and was made official at the November meeting of the Foreign Mission Board. We have always been enthusiastic supporters of the Board and its work around the world, and we are increasingly grateful to be serving with a mission board that is so dedicated to seeking the Lord's will for our work.

Our year in Hong Kong has been most rewarding, and we are grateful for the opportunity we had to get to know the great folks in the Hong Kong—Macao Baptist Mission. Recently a fellow-Mississippian, Peyton Moore, joined our mission group along with his wife, Celia. We feel sure that their eleven years of service in Viet Nam will help them greatly in preparing for their work in the communications field here in Hong Kong.

Mary and I do want you to know how much it means to us to receive the Baptist Record! We read every copy with great interest, even though we receive them many weeks late. Our new address after January 1 will be Box 7, Baguio, Philippines. We will look forward to receiving the Baptist Record there. We also would like to hear from our friends around the state, for Mississippi will always be "home."

Bob Simmons

Reader Says BR Is Special Treat

Dear Dr. Odle:

I didn't receive my Baptist Record until today (Sunday, Nov. 30) but it was still a special treat. It made me real proud and thankful to be a Baptist—especially as I read the article on the International Student Conference at Garaywa and the letter from the student, Anne Huang from Taiwan, and learned of my dear friend Brad Pope's work with the Literacy Workshop to be held at Clinton and the work planned for evangelism to the Vietnamese by Lewis Myers, etc., etc., etc.,

Carolyn Peeples Ellis
Greenwood, MS.

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Guest Editorial

U.N. Resolution: Tragic Mistake

Julian H. Pentecost
In Religious Herald (Va.)

Adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of a resolution equating Zionism and racism was a tragic mistake. Messengers to the 1975 Annual Meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia rightly deplored this "action which has dealt a severe blow to the cause of international peace."

Response from prominent United States governmental officials and international religious leaders has also been swift and forthright. America's ambassador to the United Nations, David P. Moynihan, has stated emphatically that this nation "does not acknowledge, will not abide by, will never acquiesce in this infamous act."

Although Zionism is subject to many different understandings and interpretations, there is nothing in it which is overtly racist. Politically, Zionism is a national liberation movement among Jewish people which developed because of the anti-Semitism in Europe and throughout much of the world in the 19th Century.

The most horrible expression of this anti-Semitic spirit occurred during the second World War (1939-1945) when Nazi Germany under

Adolph Hitler developed their "final solution of the Jewish problem." This Holocaust resulted in the systematic massacre of Jewish communities and the organization of death camps where millions of men and women were put to death in gas chambers. More than six million Jews were exterminated in Auschwitz, Gergen-Belsen, Dachau and other centers of genocide.

The U.N. resolution is another evidence of how quickly people forget the realities of history. Especially ironic and disturbing is the fact that many nations in the U.N. supporting the resolution have gained their independence since World War II. Nations craving an independent status for themselves are often unwilling to grant it to others.

It should be obvious to all Americans as we approach our nation's Bicentennial that the U.N. resolution is contrary to our basic tenets of freedom and democracy. Freedom-loving people of all faiths and races should recognize the grave error made by the General Assembly and work to transform the U.N. from an instrument for political opportunists into a worldwide organization that lives up to its Charter and its Declaration of Human Rights.

that every Jew needs to trust Jesus Christ and be saved, even as every Gentile needs to be saved but he shows that a Jew does not cease to be a Jew when he is saved. The book does not deal with prophetic questions of the Jews as a nation. This is a worthy volume and deserves a wide reading.

EXPOSITORY OUTLINES ON THE OLD TESTAMENT by W. W. Wiersbe; **EXPOSITORY OUTLINES ON THE NEW TESTAMENT** by W. W. Wiersbe (Calvary Book Room, W. Southern and Tibbatts, Covington, Ky., 41015; in two volumes, mimeographed sheets, hard-board cover, \$5.00 plus 50c for each volume, \$10.00 plus \$1.00 postage for the set.) These books are from the printed ministry of Calvary Baptist Church, Covington, Ky., and the author was pastor of the church when these volumes were prepared. He now is at Moody Church, Chicago. The series is called the "Whole Bible Study Course" and is a series of two-page outline studies on the whole Bible. In the O. T. every book is covered, but not every chapter. In the New Testament every chapter is covered, except Mark and Luke. These are omitted since almost all of their material is covered in Matthew. In addition to the chapter studies there are introductory notes and outlines for the books. These are not commentaries in the truest

NEWEST BOOKS

CHRIST-KILLERS, PAST AND PRESENT by Dr. Jacob Gartenhaus (Hebrew Christian Press, Box 3307, Chattanooga, Tenn. 37404, 122 pp., \$4.00; paper, \$3.00) The author is widely known among Southern Baptists for he served in Jewish evangelism for the Home Mission Board. In recent years as the founder and president of the International Board of Jewish Missions his influence has reached far beyond Baptist circles. In this book he deals with the charges against the Jews, as "Christ-Killers" which have brought so much anti-Semitism. He shows how utterly groundless such charges are, since the death of Christ was in the purposes of God, and that it is the sins of all men which made necessary the death of our Lord. The author's knowledge of Jewish laws, customs and history, is clearly shown, and because of that, and of his vast knowledge of the Scriptures, he is able to give the true answer to every question. He says that the trial of Jesus was legal, that proper legal procedure was followed. He shows that the Jews were not rejected "because they rejected Christ", even though it is true that temporary "blindness in part" has befallen them. Dr. Gartenhaus not only scores those who are anti-Semitic, but also answers modern Jewish leaders who reject the New Testament revelation concerning Christ. Dr. Gartenhaus believes

Evangelism Gets Large Chunk Of Christmas Offering

A little girl sent 36 cents to missionary Indy Whitten in Spain with these instructions: "It's the best I can do so you do the best you can with it."

Southern Baptists will be rolling together a foreign missions offering with a goal of \$24,000,000 this Christmas, and 2,600 missionaries will "do the best they can with it." Much of it will directly or indirectly support evangelism.

The first \$18,700,000 to reach the Foreign Mission Board will go into the operating budget for overseas, along with funds from the SBC Cooperative Program. Allocations for this initial amount number more than 1,000 and they run for pages.

Offerings beyond the \$18.7 million mark will go to help fund special projects and capital needs.

In both the field operating budget and in special projects, evangelism gets a large share of the special offering. Evangelism allocations are in keeping with foreign missions strategy as well as with the theme for the week of Prayer which launches the special offering November 30-December 7. The theme is "Rejoice — Rejoice . . . Proclaim," based on Psalm 107:2.

Joseph B. Underwood, consultant in evangelism and church development for the Foreign Mission Board, estimates that approximately \$100,000 from the Christmas offering is needed in a

global fund for special evangelism projects. One of these will be in Brazil, beginning in March 1976. The project is a long-term one majoring on extensive church member training. Underwood said its strategy would be "geographic and vocational" and would make massive use of radio, television, and newspapers.

The Brazilian evangelistic project will begin with a pilot project in Niteroi, where 1,000 Bible study fellowships will be started by trained teachers. "There will be one in walking distance of every family in Niteroi," Underwood explained.

Evangelism strategies similar in scope are on the drawing

board in several African, East Asian, and South American countries. All would depend heavily on the Christmas offering.

Evangelism also comes in for a share of the basic overseas operating allocations from the Christmas offering. More than \$30,000 is set aside for evangelism activities ranging from tracts to equipment.

Evangelism also stands to be strengthened from basic budgeting for missionary appointment and support, operating of mission property, and travel expenses for missionaries — and allocations for these run into the millions. The largest single allocation is \$2,520,000 to supply support for 900 missionaries.

Items in the offering allocation list range in size from \$185,000 for operation of the Baptist seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, to \$50 for social service in Madagascar.

The Christmas offering for Foreign Missions got its beginning in 1888 when Lottie Moon, a missionary in China, asked the newlyformed Woman's Missionary Union to raise funds enough to send two women missionaries to replace her while she took a long overdue furlough. The women complied, and based the offering in a Week of Prayer.

Annie Armstrong, secretary of the fledgling organization, from makeshift offices in Baltimore, sent 1,000 packages of

promotional information to women's mission societies. She also wrote by hand more than 700 letters, and so damaged her hand that she suffered pain for the rest of her life.

Her efforts paid off, and enough money came in to send three missionaries to Lottie Moon's aid. The aid of a Christmastime offering was so well received that it has continued annually. Eventually it was given the name Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

The cumulative total given through it is \$282,931,556.12.

It now provides just less than half the Foreign Mission Board annual budget, which is projected to be \$51,036,424 next year.

"Hosea Is...."

By M. Pierce Matheny, Jr.
Hosea is the January Bible Study book for 1976.

Hosea is a book about God's "wounded" love.

Hosea married Gomer to act out God's judgment word against Israel.

Hosea was commanded to have children by her, and to give them symbolic names.

Hosea was ordered by God to marry a "woman of harlotries," that is, an immoral woman.

Hosea's marriage is the most difficult problem of interpretation in the book.

Hosea may or may not have known Gomer was immoral at the time of the marriage. (I believe that he knew.)

Hosea's wife may or may not have yet become immoral at the time of the marriage. (I believe that she had.)

Hosea is commanded to experience in his relationship to Gomer what God had experienced in his relationship to Israel.

Hosea's wife betrays their covenant of marriage, and becomes an adulteress.

Hosea is commanded to act out God's redemptive love for Israel by redeeming his erring bride.

Hosea preaches the judgment message of Israel's unfaithfulness to her husband out of this bitter experience.

Hosea also preaches hope for the future redemption of Israel, just as he has bought back and disciplined his adulterous wife.

Hosea says God will lure Israel into the desert for a "second honeymoon."

Hosea proclaims a new betrothal of Israel to Yahweh with all the covenant virtues as bridal gifts.

Hosea announces a new universal covenant of peace and fertility built on the grace of God.

Hosea said this could only happen for Israel after the discipline of judgment in exile.

Hosea preached the covenant

controversy of the Lord against his disobedient people.

Hosea focused on the religious leaders for having led the people astray.

Hosea condemned the apostasy of Israel to the Baal religion, with its drunkenness and immorality.

Hosea refused to accuse the women of their misconduct while excusing the men for theirs.

Hosea revealed that the Lord rejected Israel's worship as superficial.

Hosea preached the need for a real repentance going beyond such superficiality.

Hosea rejected Israel's kings as not chosen by God.

Hosea condemned their worship of the golden calf of Bethel, and predicted its destruction.

Hosea derided their trust in foreign alliances as basic betrayals of their loyalty to God.

Hosea was accounted as a fool and a madman by Israel for such preaching.

Hosea thought of himself as God's watchman to warn Israel of her sin and its punishment.

Hosea saw God as a loving Father, having to punish his rebellious son, but unwilling to finally destroy him.

Hosea saw Israel as a "Jacob," unwilling to learn the consequences of his tricky behavior.

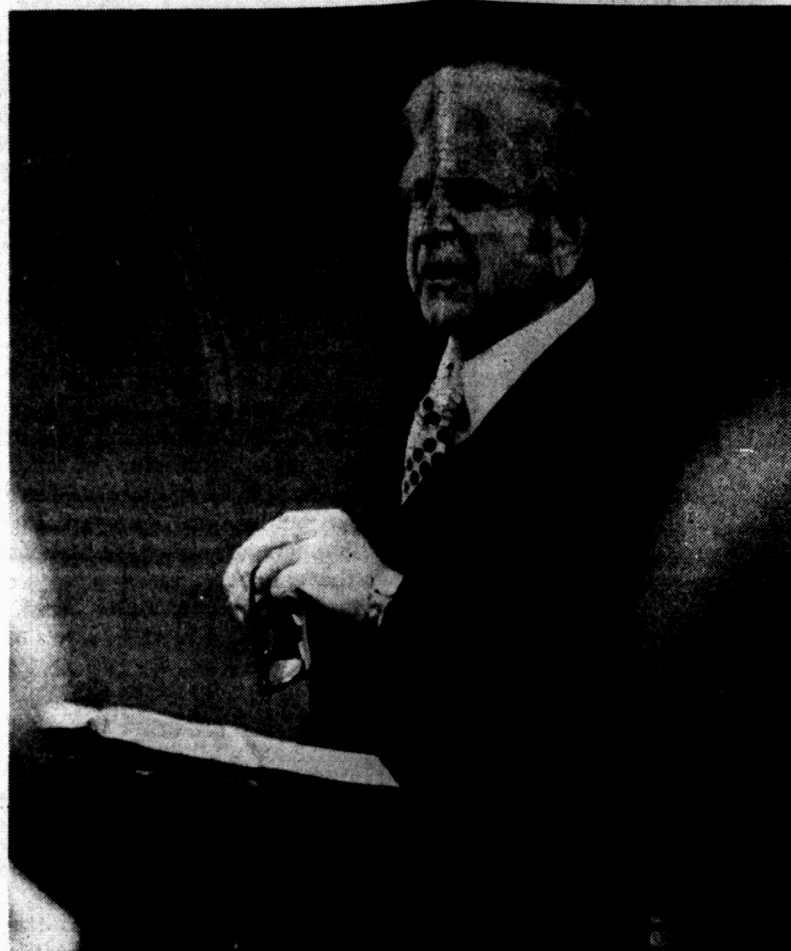
Hosea said Ephraim as a nation was as good as dead and buried.

Hosea yet preached hope for a real repentance and healing through the forgiving love of God.

Hosea held out the hope for a restored Israel dwelling beneath God's shadow in a renewed "garden" of divine fruitfulness and beauty.

Hosea is a fascinating book about a prophet who experienced and proclaimed the surpassing wonders of God's love.

(Dr. Matheny is the author of the Seminary Extension Department Study Guide for Hosea: God's Wounded Love. He is professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at Midwestern Seminary.)



Dr. W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, lectures a New Testament class during his recent "Week of Preaching" on the campus of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Criswell "Comes Home" For Seminary Preaching

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Dr. W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, it was just like coming home when he was invited to Southern Seminary for a week of preaching. It marked a long-awaited opportunity to renew acquaintances with a place that has meant much to his life.

"I spoke here one time before," Criswell remembers, "when Dr. Sampey was president." That was over 30 years ago, when Criswell was still a pastor in Muskogee, Ok.

"It's been the greatest week of my life." "I've just been encouraged beyond anything I've ever experienced. This has always been to me the greatest seminary in the world — it has the greatest potential and the greatest possibility for good."

Criswell's ties with Southern Seminary go back more than 40 years to the time when he came to Louisville as a first-year seminary student. He was awarded a master of theology degree in 1934, and in 1937 received his doctor of philosophy degree. But his student years brought more than sheepskin on the wall — he also found a wife.

"We were the first couple married in the chapel," which was located at that time in Norton Hall, explains the pastor and author. His wife Betty was born in Louisville, but reared in Mount Washington, Ky., where she was the pianist in the church where Cris-

well served as student pastor.

The pastor of the largest Southern Baptist church in the world credits his experience as a student pastor as one key to his ministry. "I was a preacher in the country for 10 years (in Texas and Kentucky), which is the greatest thing God ever did for me. I was in those small churches and I knew everybody. Now I have to do it through my assistants."

Criswell says that his attitude toward preaching was developed at Southern Seminary. "I especially loved the New Testament courses under Hersey Davis — he did what I wish I could do more effectively. Why he never published a commentary I'll never know."

Seminary president Duke K. McCall, a classmate of Criswell during those years, points out that the group of students which came out of Southern Seminary in that period "provided the leadership that picked up the Southern Baptist Convention at the end of World War II."

McCall is another reason why Criswell has fond feelings toward the seminary. McCall points out that "our friendship now stretches over 40 years." The two men traveled around the world together in 1950 and published their reminiscences in a book, *Passport to the World*. The seminary president calls Criswell, "the most profoundly effective pastor in the world today."

Criswell's smiling face was seen

'Village' Activities Director Wins Acclaim

"Never, in all my years in child care, have I seen one man, doing so much for children, from one building!" With this comment, an out-of-state child care consultant, with 28 years of experience, generally accepted as an expert in group child care, concluded his evaluation of John L. Self, Director of the Department of Activities at The Baptist Children's Village.

Mr. Self's work on the Village's Jackson campus has been cited on two different occasions in 1975, by two different professional consultants, each of whom lived on the campus for a week in the course of observing, studying, and criticizing the services of The Baptist Children's Village. According to Paul N. Nunnery, Village superintendent, one of the consultants is Southern Baptist and the other represents a non-sectarian consulting agency in the private sector.

As a result of the studies, Superintendent Nunnery has been requested to allow Mr. Self to attend a national conference of child care executives, meeting in Texas in 1976, for the purpose of addressing these national leaders under the topic, "Reaching Out for Christ — With Children." In addition to delivering one of the major papers at this conference, Mr. Self will narrate a slide presentation depicting various aspects of his staff ministry at The Village.

"John Self has reflected great credit upon himself and upon every Mississippi Baptist through his energetic, innovative and attractive leadership in an area of Village service which frequently represents our best opportunity to communicate compassionate concern to children," Nunnery stated.

"More importantly, through an inventive and imaginative use of his wide range of talent, he has opened a redemptive door for us with boys and girls, particularly adolescents, who are usually disturbed by their family circumstances, who are experiencing immense difficulties in maturing, and who otherwise might have been beyond the reach of our program."

Village sources have explained that the Department of Activities includes athletic and recrea-

all over the seminary campus during the recent week of preaching. He met with faculty, held teaching sessions with students, but most of all "preached the Word" to packed chapel audiences every day.

He urged the future ministers to be earnest in their study and preparation. Said Criswell, "There is a great revival coming, the greatest the world has ever known. God has called you here for preparation for this heavenly assignment."

tional opportunities for children, but under Mr. Self's leadership has been expanded to embrace a broad program of emotional and spiritual therapy touching virtually every opportunity afforded Village children as groups for pleasurable and wholesome occupation of leisure.

A talented musician, Mr. Self frequently appears in a featured role with Village choirs and chorale groups. Admirers of the unique ministry of music therapy, which is led by Jan Nix, as Director of the Department of Music and her associate, Ruth Glaze, have acclaimed Self's choral participation with Village children in Junior Choir and Junior - High Choir presentations in 1975 and his traditional comedy appearance as a part of the annual mass - choir concert, "Christmas Sparkles at the Village."

Claire Nowlin, ASCW, Director of Social Service at The Children's Village has cited valuable contributions which Mr. Self lends to the critical efforts of social caseworkers in their involvement with the emotional and family lives of Village children. A regular routine of contact - liaison is maintained by Mr. Self and Mrs. Nowlin in working with the troubled lives of boys and girls in this sensitive area.

Operating from his offices in Hester Activities Building on The Village's Jackson Campus, "Coach Self," as he is affectionately known to the children, directs organized team-sports in basketball, football, baseball, and flag football. His department also offers swimming, in-door skating, table tennis, billiards and other "game-room" interests from Hester Building's Recreational Center.

Assisted by Henry Glaze, from The Village's Home Life Department, and other staff volunteers, Mr. Self stages day - long programs of organized play - competition, on July 4 and on Labor Day each year.

A native of Holmes County, Mr. Self is a graduate of Mississippi College, with experience in teaching and coaching and as minister of youth in several Baptist churches before joining the Village staff on August 20, 1973. He is married to the former Terri Livingston, who is a registered nurse. With their young son, Chris, they reside on the Jackson campus of The Children's Village. They are members of Calvary Church of Jackson.

No Chance

In this life what a man sows he shall reap — unless he happens to be an amateur gardener.

Develop the mind, but always remember the direction is more important than its progress.

Most people would agree that the last starling would be more welcome than the first robin.

January Bible Study Resources Listed

NASHVILLE — "January Bible Study For All Ages" is the theme for the 1976 January Bible Study, according to A. V. Washburn, secretary of the Sunday School department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Listed below are the resources available for 1976 January Bible Study, with unit prices and order numbers. All items may be ordered through Baptist Book Stores.

Adults in Southern Baptist Churches will turn to the Old Testament for their 1976 January Bible Study. Hosea, God's prophet in Israel during the years of the Northern Kingdom's final decline, is the subject of this year's study.

"Hosea: Prophet of Reconciliation," by Fred M. Wood, pastor of Eudora Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., is the adult study book for 1976. The scripture text serves as the basic outline, \$1.25, (BBS No. 5132-16).

Other materials for adults include "Teaching Guide for Hosea: Prophet of Reconciliation," \$4.50 (BAS #5142-16); "Study Guide for Hosea: Prophet of Reconciliation," \$6.50 (BBS No. 5152-18); and "Hosea Teaching Resource Kit," \$6.00, (BBS No. 5122-16).

From Broadman: "Hosea: Prophet of Reconciliation" (film-strip), \$10.50, (BBS No. 443-968); Hosea: Prophet of Reconciliation" (cassette tape), \$6.00, (BBS No. 447-218); and "Hosea and His Message," a paperback book by Roy L. Honeycutt Jr., \$1.50, (BBS No. 4212-12) are available. "God-Man Alive," the youth book, is the fifth in the Youth Bible Survey Series. It was written by Mrs. Clair Crissey, Mar-

letta, Ga., and Mrs. Bonnie Farmer, Nashville, Tenn. This book begins a study of the New Testament and gives an overview of the life of Christ from the Gospels, \$1.25, (BBS No. 5132-05).

Also, a "God-Man Alive: Resource Kit" is available for \$4.25, (BBS No. 5122-95).

For older children, "This is My Bible," by Bethann F. Van Ness, uses child experience stories and activities to explain how the Bible came into existence, \$7.75, (BBS No. 5138-17).

Younger children will study "The Story The Bible Tells," by Mrs. Carl Clard, \$7.75, (BBS No. 5130-13). This book is designed to help children think of Bible stories and verses learned as fitting into a sequence which forms a concept of the Bible as one connected, ongoing story.

Older preschoolers will study "God's Care in Autumn and Winter," by Polly Hargis Dillard, \$7.75, (BBS No. 5139-15). This book will help each child begin to understand some of the ways in which God takes care of him and to thank God for his care.

"Good Food to Eat," also by Polly Hargis Dillard, will be for use with younger preschoolers. It guides younger preschoolers in desirable learning experiences, \$6.50, (BBS No. 5139-18).

Administrative materials available include "A More Effective January Bible Study," \$5.00, (BBS No. 5270-38); and "January Bible Study Promotion Aids, 1976," which includes Information Poster, Sign-up Chart and 50 Sticker Reminders, \$2.25, (BBS No. 0111-85).

The Business Of Saint-Making

By W. L. Bennett, Pastor
First Baptist Church
Ft. Smith, Arkansas

Who is the creator of saints? This is an issue which has been raised in the public mind in recent days. The event which provoked it was the creation by Pope Paul VI of the "first" American saint. Elizabeth Ann Seton was declared to be the "first saint born in the United States." This is an astonishing statement. If it is true, it means that some of the noblest Christians born in this country were not saints — men like Charles Finney, D. L. Moody, Peter Cartwright, R. G. Lee, George Truett, and Billy Graham. Even more questionable were

the grounds on which Miss Seton was declared to be a saint. She was given this status because she was (1) physically dead; (2) had performed three miracles (3) and was judged to be the saintly kind by the Roman Catholic Church. I would not say Miss Seton was not a saint. She may have been. But I would have to say, on the clearest biblical evidences, that she was not made a saint by the three aforementioned conditions.

Who is the creator of saints? The Bible teaches very clearly that Jesus Christ, and He alone, can make a saint. One becomes a saint by the miracle of the new birth. There-

fore, every truly born again believer is a saint. The word "saint" is the Greek word *hagios* which means "holy one." This word appears in Romans 1:7, Phil. 1:1, Eph. 1:1, I Cor. 1:2, II Cor. 1:2, Col. 1:2. In each of these six cases Paul is addressing local churches, which would mean he applies the term "saint" to several hundred people. Indeed, if you are truly a child of God through the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, you are not "called to be saints" as Romans 1:7 reads in the KJV. The correct translation is "called saints." The words "to be" have been added by the translators as shown by the italics. A Christian is a saint, period, not just called to be.

Let us not get caught up in the discussion concerning the meaning of sainthood and

fail to apply the lesson to ourselves if you are a true Christian, you are a saint. You are a holy one. Check yourself out and see if you are a Christian or a false professor. Once in the army of Alexander the Great there was a soldier named Alexander charged with a serious crime. When he appeared before Alexander, the great general asked, "Do I understand you to say that your name is Alexander?" He said, "Yes." Then I say unto you, change your name or change your conduct." I believe there would be a lot of name changing or conduct changing on the part of many professing Christians if they ever stopped to think what "saint" really means. How about you? Act like a saint if you claim to be a Christian.

Brazilian Baptist Students "Sacrifice" For World Hunger

DOURADOS, Brazil — Fifty dollars is not an enormous sum to give to the cause of world hunger. But to students at the Baptist theological institute near here, the sum was a lot considering the "week of sacrifice" made to produce the money.

According to Ann Wollerman, a Southern Baptist missionary for over 25 years, the institute operates on faith. The finances are limited; and therefore one cut of meat, a piece of fruit and occasionally something sweet is all that supplements the student's weekly diet of beans, rice and garden produce.

"It is true that right here we have a sub-standard diet, and most of our poorer people are terribly undernourished," Miss Wollerman explained. "But when I read that in Africa and Asia 10,000 die each week from hunger, it was too much for me to accept complacently. At the

morning prayer meeting at the institute, I spoke to the students of Jesus' words; 'Give ye them to eat.' (Matt. 14:16). I emphasized that people need Jesus, the Bread of Life, more than anything else. Along with this, however, He expects us to share with others who are in need. At the close there were few dry eyes."

The group, along with Miss Wollerman, agreed to have a "week of sacrifice" which would include not buying any meat, fruit, sweets or other food. They would supplement their beans and rice diet only with garden produce. Also, they would be committed in prayer for those going without food around the

world.

"It was a precious experience," the missionary related. "Everyone was so excited when we counted our money at the end of the week, it amounted to the equivalent of \$50. Even though it is insignificant in relation to the needs, we remembered that so was the lunch of the little boy with the loaves and fish. But given in Christ's name and because of Him, we know He is going to multiply it greatly."

"More than the money, I know God will honor the prayer, often amid tears, of these young people as they prayed for the souls of those who were going to die without knowing about Jesus Christ."

Today's Youth



THE PICTURES above tell the story of a very unusual incident in Houston which took place recently under the direction of Rick Carter, minister of First Baptist Church. The pictures, 1 to 6, show (1) a large group of youth gathered at First Baptist Youth Center, ready for UCH. (2) The youth load on Bobby Dendy's truck, heading for UCH. (3) Arriving at an abandoned

house, those participating in UCH are given candles. (4) The meaning of UCH is revealed to the group by Rick Carter, and the reason for the secrecy explained. (5) The group partakes of the bread and wine during the administering of the Lord's Supper. (6) Rev. Woodrow Horn (standing right) dismisses the group with prayer, after which they returned to the church for fellowship.

POWERLINE

A Straight Line to Youth

FEAR OF FAILURE REDUCES SUCCESS

This problem is not uncommon in our achievement-oriented society.

I am taking the college entrance exam this spring. I am really scared. If I don't do well, I am finished. I really want to go to college, but I have to get a good score to be accepted. I am very good in sports and I make average grades. But under pressure I just go blank. What can I do?

A more optimistic frame of mind and some positive action can help.

The most important step is to stop thinking in terms of failure and think rather of success. This is not magic, but the powers of positive thinking have been demonstrated as effective. If you picture your failure, you are more likely to fail. The same is true of success.

A mental picture of doing the right thing also helps you get down to studying and preparing, rather than merely worrying. Get to work and don't entertain any ideas except that you are going to make it!

Try to look at this test not as a stumbling block but as a stepping stone to success. It can help you learn more about yourself and how to make the most of your abilities.

Remember, too, that prayer is often the practice of positive thinking. God is not some harsh judge who demands a certain level of achievement. On the contrary, he stands ready to assist in the unfolding of the unique personality he has created in you!

A weekly radio program for youth broadcast nationwide by So. Baptist Radio-TV Commission. For information write POWERLINE, Fort Worth, Texas 76116. Dr. J. P. Allen, Director, Audience Response.

"We Can Take The Broken Pieces To Our Maker"

By Sherry Mitchell, Amory,
Age 19

Modern times are convenient. Push a button, and turn a knob. That's all there is to many people's jobs. In these modern times, though, things get broken, and so do lives.

We have to take the broken pieces to our Maker. It won't take him long to fix them, and once they're ready to work again, a load from us is lifted.

"Modern religion" — we "turn it on, turn it off," but who should we blame? We act as if we're robots and our maker is man. I think it's time we sat down and listened to God.

Oh, we often are so "religious" and with our mouths we profess, but actually we're only playing. Life to us is like a game of chess.

Sometimes I find myself like a worn-out piece of machinery — broken and shattered within. (Sometimes I even try to do my work alone.) Then I kneel at an altar and with my heart confess. I give the broken pieces to my Maker and let him fix, and really bless.



Boys Eat Eight-Foot Banana Split

At a Royal Ambassador Round-Up on November 5, the R. A. counselors at First, Coffeeville, and their chapters consumed an 8 foot long banana split. The delicacy was made up of 30 pounds of bananas, three gallons of ice cream, six cans of whipped topping, several pounds of nuts, several bottles of cherries, and three cans of chocolate

syrup. Cost? \$28.00!!! Prior to this the boys were involved in a group session. Leaders present were: Paul Harper, minister of music and youth, Allen Freer, Joe Bourn, William McCullar, Alton Pollan, and Roger Fithian. Rev. Donnie L. Stewart is pastor. This summer the church organized three chapters in the Crusader program of Royal Ambassador.

Secret Of "UCH" Revealed To Houston Young People

By Rick Carter
Minister of Music and Youth
First Baptist Church,
Houston, Mississippi

"U.C.H. will meet at 9:00!!"

These were the words heard around Houston for about a month. Rick Carter, minister of music and youth at First Baptist Church, began publicizing this event to be a "happening" of the young people at the church.

Speculation ran high! What in the world was U.C.H.? Many, ma-

ny ideas were expressed, but the one that the youth liked the most was "Unchaperoned Hayride." They were hoping that was the meaning of U.C.H. However, it was not.

Given absolutely no clues concerning the nature of U.C.H., about fifty young people from the church and community met at the



MK Puppets Resemble Baptist Missionaries

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — It seems to be ingenuity that keeps the Southern Baptist missionaries' children (MKs) occupied during their parents' annual mission meetings.

This was especially true at the meeting here recently when MKs Anna Douglas and Kathy Siebenmann along with Missionary Journeyman Debbie Barger presented a puppet show to the group. The puppets bore express resemblance to missionaries present; and the script was written by Southern Baptist Missionary Peggy (Mrs. Paul C.) Siebenmann, Kathy's mother.

Mrs. Siebenmann and her mother, Mrs. Marcel Beckett, made the puppets; and the MKs collaborated to make the puppets resemble the missionaries.

Kathy, 13, has been able to use puppets in a weekly home Bible study, Spanish camp and in the children's ward of the county hospital in Puerto Plata where she lives.

BMC Singers Present Christmas Vesper Program

The Blue Mountain College Singers, directed by Nancy Ellis Robertson, presented their annual Christmas Vesper program, December 7, at 4 p.m. in Lowrey Memorial Church, Blue Mountain. The program this year was a performance of Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols, a modern musical setting of medieval texts.

Soloists were Lindy Marshall, freshman from Huntsville, Alabama and Hope Clements, sophomore from Corinth, Robert Formosa, assistant professor of music played the piano accompaniment and Edward Ludlow, associate professor of music played the opening prelude and postlude. Ellen Hawkins, junior from Moreville was student accompanist.

Blue Mountain Festival Queen

Amy Nolan (R), a senior art major from Lancaster, Ohio, has been chosen spring festival queen at Blue Mountain College and will reign over activities at the annual event next spring. Anita McCormick from Memphis was chosen Maid of Honor for the festival.



"Second Century" Sings

Blue Mountain College's popular singing group, The Second Century, performed at Concord Church Nov. 2. Members of the group include (seated L-R) Lori Dean of Greenwood, Kathy Pope of Ridgeland and Becky Gray of Okinawa. Other members include (standing L-R) Tami Butler of Pontotoc, Harlan Turman of Birmingham and Emma Ainsworth of Jackson.



Rock-A-Thon At Paul Truitt

The youth choir of Paul Truitt Memorial Church in Pearl recently sponsored a Rock-A-Thon. Forty-one rockers participated in the non-stop rocking which began Oct. 17 at 7 p.m. and continued until 2 p.m. next day. The Rock-A-Thon was scheduled to continue until 12 Saturday night, but was called off because the minister of music and youth could not last any longer. A total of \$1,070.04 was pledged and five rockers went the entire 19 hours. In the last three months, the youth choir has increased from 30 members to 62 members and will use the money from the Rock-A-Thon to help pay for a summer choir tour. Danny Brock is minister of music and youth and Rev. J. L. Reeves is pastor.



Prospective Student Day Breaks Records

Prospective Student Day at Carey on November 15, broke all records with over 200 high school and junior college students in attendance. Mississippi Coast visitors Lydia McAllister, left, and Kathy Roberts, both from North Biloxi, pose with their pastor, Rev. Bill Renick of LeMoyne Blvd. Church, and with Carey Director of Admissions Tony Pascale, far right, as they tour the campus.



Coffeeville G.A.'s Attend All-Night Camp

This group of G.A. girls enjoyed an all night camp in the home of Betty Jo Hughes. There were six leaders and 29 girls in attendance. The G.A. director is Ellen Gray. The pastor is Rev. Donnie L. Stewart. G. A. Leaders include Betty Jo Hughes, Charlotte Gray, Gloria Vaughn, Geneva Allen, Judy Fithian.

Matthew And The Messiah

By Wm. J. Falls

Matthew 4:13-16; 12:15-21; 21:1-5
"Messiah" means anointed one, and it originally referred to the Hebrew king as the "anointed of the Lord." The

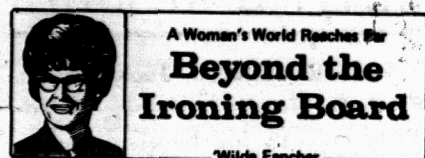


anointing symbolized the choice of God. Eventually the term described an ideal king or leader who would be used by God to bring judgment and salvation as the final goal of history. He would have unlimited authority over the nations, bring peace and prosperity, and establish justice for the oppressed. The idea became more nationalistic in nonbiblical Jewish writings in the two centuries before Jesus' birth: Messiah would conquer Israel's enemies and establish a glorious new kingdom.

The Lesson Explained A Light For Those In Darkness (4:13-16)

If you have a harmony of the Gospels at hand, you can see that verse 13 refers to the reaction of the people to Jesus' sermon in the Nazareth synagogue (Luke 4:16-31). Rejected by his hometown, he went to live in a more cosmopolitan community, Capernaum. Matthew locates it in the region assigned to two tribes of Israel in the conquest of Canaan. Jewish readers would understand that, but Gentile readers would expect the current title, Galilee.

Matthew had a special reason



A Woman's World Reaches For
Beyond the Ironing Board
Wilda Fancher

Expulsive power is a driving out force, a removing force. Sometimes it's a small thing which has great expulsive power — as small a thing as a flower or two.

James' desk used to get very messy when he occupied a pastor's study. Busy hours resulted in stacked-up work, reflected by accumulation of papers and books. On a day when roses were first in bloom, a friend brought a vaseful of the fragile loveliness for James' desk. It didn't take long for James to clear the messy desk up that day. The orderliness of beauty was an expulsive force.

Dr. Hyman Appelman tells the story of a pretty little lily which was given to a poor, dirty family. Its natural white cleanliness moved them to personal cleanliness.

Ranging from a blossom to a deity, expulsive forces go on around us all the time, as they have forever. There is a moving record in I Samuel 5 which tells of the idol to Dagon being unable to stand in the presence of the ark. Each morning they move the idol fallen over. Truth ejects falsity.

I sat in my church the other night. The stained glass windows looked dark and dull except where light from the outside kept off the darkness and reflected into vivid hues.

The desire to keep a family healthy and happy by supplying its needs for food and care dislodges laziness from a mother's day. The desire to be obedient forces selfish wishes out from the child — parent relationships. The love of a faithful mate in a marriage excludes everything that could eventually lead to insecurity in the heart of husband or wife.

There is a need every day for a sense of purpose, for a place to go that day. A sense of purpose shuts out wasted time, shoddy work.

But it all goes back to a sense of values. For the Christian, those values are inescapably entangled with the values of Christ — forgiven sins, aimful lives, peaceful hearts, hopeful minds, all arrived at by allowing the Holy Spirit — all day long — to do its work of the expulsion of deliberate desire for sin, lazy shiftlessness, doubt and fear from our beings.

These are exchanges on whose profits and increases the value cannot be computed by humanity. Only by God. Fortunately, human computation is not necessary for human enjoyment.

for using those words. First, he wanted his Jewish readers — whether Christians or not — to see how Jesus fitted messianic anticipations in the Old Testament. Isaiah seemed to be talking (9:1-2) about God-given relief that would come to the people of Zebulun and Naphtali, who had suffered most at the hands of the Assyrians. He said a new king-liberator was coming. But no human king ever fulfilled the whole description in Isaiah 9:2-7. Matthew saw Jesus in that role of Messiah.

Second, he wanted Gentile Christians to see that when Jesus settled in Galilee rather than in Judea, he showed his desire for Gentiles as well as Jews to hear his message. All the people — both Jews and Gentiles — who were sitting in the darkness of sin, ignorance, and misery could be enlightened. The second half of verse 16 illustrates parallelism in Hebrew poetry as it repeats the basic idea of the former half. This Light would shine even through deathly darkness.

God's Servant; The Gentiles' Hope (12:15-21)

After Jesus healed a man in the synagogue on the sabbath, verse 14 tells us that the Pharisees conferred on "how they might destroy him." Because Jesus was not ready for a final confrontation with his enemies, he left that community, and a crowd followed him. As he healed the people, he commanded them not to talk about him. He was glad to heal, but he did not want a lot of publicity.

This fact reminded Matthew of another passage in Isaiah, one frequently called a "Servant Song." It describes the chosen servant of

the Lord, either Israel or some unknown leader, in whom God would "proclaim justice to the Gentiles" (RSV). He would be moved by God's Spirit but would avoid arguments and loud speaking in public places. He would be so gentle that he would not "break off a bent reed" or "put out a flickering lamp" (TEV). Nevertheless, he would accomplish justice; even the Gentiles would place their hope in him.

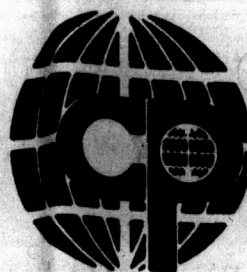
A Different Kind Of King (21:1-5)

When Jesus and his disciples were coming toward Jerusalem a week before the crucifixion, he sent two of them on a strange errand. He was going to ride into the city, not on a horse as a conqueror but on a lowly beast of burden. Again, Matthew was reminded of a prophetic passage, Zechariah 9:9. Here was a picture of the Messiah which many Jews may have forgotten. They may have been more impressed by the Messiah ideas in the writings of the interbiblical period. There he was a national hero, conqueror, and king, but Jesus was a different kind of king.

Shivers (Simpson) Burns Note, Hears The Broadways

Shivers Church, Simpson County, recently burned a bank note, signifying that the church is free of debt. The noteburning took place on annual homecoming day.

Rev. Nelson Fortenberry, pastor, preached the morning message on homecoming day. The Broadways, family singing group from Gulfport, sang both morning and afternoon. Lunch was served at the church.



**COOPERATIVE PROGRAM
50th ANNIVERSARY**

At Work In Indonesia

Willi Darmijas was born a fine, healthy boy into a family who loved him and had eagerly awaited his arrival. There was only one problem — he was born with a hideously deformed double-lip. Not only did he have a hair lip, but the tissue that should have been part of the upper lip was turned up over his nose like an elephant's trunk. When we arrived in Bukittinggi, Willi's parents did not know where to turn because a local doctor and one at a nearby medical school had refused to operate on him. Since the permit to open our hospital hadn't been granted, Dr. Applewhite could only examine him and advise his parents that the operation should be done as soon as possible. We thought our hospital would be open at any time, but as the time went by and no permit was granted, Dr. Applewhite told Willi's parents if they could take Willi to Kediri to our Baptist hospital there, that he would go there and operate on him. In Kediri, in the 120 bed hospital equipped with Cooperative Program funds, Willi had his operation. The hospital buildings, the instruments the equipment and even our being in this country is dependent on the gifts to the Cooperative Program. Not only does Willi have a nice upper lip now, but as I sat outside the operating room with his mother, who is a Moslem, she said with tears in her eyes, "Never have I had anyone to be as kind to me as you Christians have been."

Mrs. C. Winfield Applewhite
Bukittinggi, Indonesia

God has ordained that the benefactors of His grace be the bearers of His gospel. As I go into the second year of my second missionary term in Indonesia, I am keenly aware that I do not go alone. Christ is with me, and you, my co-laborer in the gospel, are with me. Yes, we both are benefactors of God's grace and we both are bearers of His gospel. We depend upon each other in such a way that both are essential to the success of our task of spreading the gospel in Central Sumatra. If I were not here, what could you do? If you were not here in faithful support, what could I do? The power that unites us in this common objective is the call of Christ. You know it, don't you? I do too. And the tangible cable that links us together is the Cooperative Program. That describes our relationship so well: we are co-workers, operating in God's program of evangelism. Isn't that beautiful! The Indonesians have a very similar expression: "Gotong-royong," literally "working together." And they literally do. If a community roadway needs repair, the men bring their short handled hoes and in cooperation they chop up, fill in, and fix the road, hoe beside hoe, or they build a fence, or repair an irrigation canal together. I'm awfully glad and grateful to be yoked up with you and Christ in this mighty task of evangelism. Here in Central Sumatra we have four young churches with great potential. They are my churches and my responsibility. They are your churches and your responsibility. They are Christ's churches and His responsibility. And they have a bright future, with persecutions,

First, Lauderdale

Celebrates Homecoming

First Church, Lauderdale, celebrated homecoming on November 23. Rev. Jerry Bishop, pastor, conducted special services at 11 a.m. Rev. James Rowlings, former pastor, led the opening prayer, and Mrs. Mary Etta Coker read the history of the church.

Lunch was served in the basement kitchen. Three groups of visiting singers presented gospel songs in the afternoon. A special offering was taken for the building fund.

and many hardships. Christ makes our presence here possible because of the Cooperative Program which you and we participate in.
Tom Barron
Indonesia

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BAPTIST BOOK STORE

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

The Unpardonable Sin

By Bill Duncan
Matt. 12:1-50

One time I met a man who thought he had committed the unpardonable sin. He said he wanted to be saved but he could not. He claimed that he had begged God to save him and he would not. The man could never tell me what he had done. He did not know what he had done. He simply said the feeling was gone.

This is just an illustration of the many ways people have expressed ignorance about the "unpardonable sin." Too many people are talking about sin without a biblical idea of what the Bible says about sin. Let us open our minds and search the scripture to find the truth.

In our Bible lesson, as Jesus restored speech and sight to a demoniac the crowds asked if this could not indicate him to be the Son of David. The Pharisees charged Jesus with casting out demons only by Beelzebub, the prince of demons. As Jesus ministered in the midst of the crowd, a blind man saw and the religious leaders went "blind." It is against this background that the "unpardonable sin" is to be studied and understood. The sin described is one of deliberate, arrogant blasphemy, calling what unmistakably is God's work, the devil's work.

God's love is one wave of grace after another wave of grace pounding upon the shores of our lives. God is warning us in this lesson about what is going to happen if we reject His love and grace to us. God will not tolerate man's rebellion. But God's promise is that "all manner of sin, and blasphemy shall be forgiven you" (Matt. 12:31). This is a great promise of hope.

There is a sin that drives God

away from us. Jesus said it is a sin that does not fit into the category of forgivable sins. For many years I kept saying that "unbelief" is the unpardonable sin. I read something that James T. Draper wrote that led me to change my mind. He wrote "unbelief may be unpardonable, but it is not unpardonable." Unbelief may be the symptom but the disease is greater.

What is the unpardonable sin? It is a sin against the Holy Spirit. "Wherefore I say unto you, all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come" (Matt. 12:31-32).

What is the work of the Holy Spirit? The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to magnify and lead people to faith in Jesus Christ — and to the maturing of the Christian life. The Holy Spirit is God's agent in salvation.

The unpardonable sin is our constant, continual, perpetual and final rejection of Jesus Christ. It is the rejection of the Holy Spirit's ministry to us. This is no accidentally committed sin. It is a deliberate and willful act against the person and work of the Holy Spirit. To speak against the Son of Man (Jesus) is forgiv-

able, but to speak against the Holy Spirit is not. As in the case of the Pharisees in Matthew 12, their sin was a willful act of disobedience, disbelief to deny themselves of their only hope. It is an act that cuts oneself off from the one who alone can lead to repentance.

The blasphemy of the Holy Spirit is a willful sin against what we know is the truth, when one knows the scripture truth such as the Pharisees and will not admit it, he sins a great sin. The Matthew 12 passage clearly teaches that the Pharisees knew who Jesus was. When one sins knowing truth, he hardens his heart against the love of God.

Today God is saying to the
(Continued On Page 8)

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Mississippi Newsbriefs

Just For The Record



Springdale Opens New Library

Springdale (Attala) recently opened a new church library. At present the shelves contain over 180 volumes, including many books given as memorials. Some free books were given by the Church Library Department of the Sunday School Board. The library also contains a variety of audio-visual materials and equipment. Seen cutting the ribbon at the opening is the pastor, Floyd Higginbotham. Others shown are, left to right, Mrs. Carolyn Gunter, associate librarian, Mrs. Deck Johnson, associate librarian, and Mrs. Cecil Oakes, librarian. Looking on is Melinda Cummins.



Woodlawn Pledges Over \$365,000 For New Sanctuary

Pastor Paul Brooks (left) and Building Committee Chairman, Dr. Joe Ross, of Woodlawn Church, Vicksburg, are standing at the site of the church's future construction.

Woodlawn recently completed the 'Together We Build' building program and raised over \$365,000 in pledges over a 3-year period. Rev. Clarence Cutrell, Stewardship Department MBCB, Jackson, served as consultant in the campaign.

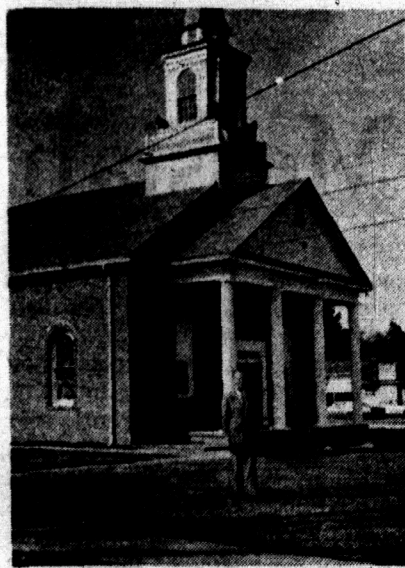
Woodlawn hopes to construct a new sanctuary that will seat approximately 1000, and have educational space for over 1000. The construction will take place on the recently acquired 5½ acres located next to the present church site.

Friendship Church Tapes Messages, Sends To Confined

Friendship Church, Grenada, under leadership of Pastor Sherman Barnette, has begun a ministry to the confined of that community. Each Sunday morning, Purvis Lane, left above, records on tape the worship service. Throughout the week, Mrs. Beulah Tribble, center, and Mrs. Evelyn England, right, take the recorded message into homes of those unable to attend church services due to physical limitations. Mrs. Tribble and Mrs. England report the new outreach has been well received by those to whom it is being offered.

Rev. William Hodge Is Calvary Pastor

A recent issue of the Baptist Record printed a story, with picture, about the dedication of a new building at Calvary, Coffeeville. Rev. William Hodge is the pastor at Calvary. The story incorrectly stated that James Calder was pastor.



Rev. Taylor H. Wallace in front of the Enterprise Church which sponsors annual Thanksgiving Dinners for Senior Citizens.

Enterprise Church Sponsors Thanksgiving Dinner For Senior Citizens

The third annual Thanksgiving Dinner for Senior Citizens, sponsored by Enterprise Church, was held at Enterprise High School on Saturday, November 22. About seventy seniors were treated to "turkey and all the trimmings" prepared by the women of the church. Meals were delivered to those unable to attend.

Rev. Taylor H. Wallace, pastor of Enterprise Church, welcomed the seniors and Horace Kerr, executive director of the Mississippi Council on Aging, who was a special guest. Rev. Hollis Howell of

Enterprise United Methodist Church led the thanksgiving prayer.

The dining hall was decorated in a Bicentennial theme.

After the meal, Mr. Kerr spoke to the group. He commended Enterprise Church for honoring senior citizens each year with a Thanksgiving Dinner. On a Bicentennial note, he praised senior citizens for the role they have played in the making of our country and suggested that they receive special recognition during the bicentennial year.



Big Creek Pastorium Is Paid For

Pictured are some of the members of Big Creek Church (Wayne) who are responsible for retiring the debt on the new pastorium (in background). The old home was completely remodeled and bricked. A fifteen year note of \$13,000 was retired in two years and seven months. The church held a note burning service to celebrate the debt retirement. Rev. Franklin McLelland is pastor. The church is considering plans for expansion.

S. S. Lesson - - -

(Continued from page 7)

world, "I love you, I care for you, I will forgive you all manner of sin except willful rejection when you know better."

The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to bring conviction into every heart. He creates an awareness of a need in our hearts by showing us a better way of life. The Holy Spirit draws people to God through Jesus Christ. If He did not convict us, there would be no desire for salvation in our lives.

You cannot get saved when you want to. You get saved when God gets ready. When the Holy Spirit draws us to Him.

If the Holy Spirit is dealing with a life, revealing the need, the knowledge of truth and what needs to be done, the person should dare not turn him down. The unpardonable sin is a continuous, constant, perpetual and final rejection of the ministry of the Holy Spirit—who wants to direct the life to Jesus Christ.

God will not and cannot save a person against his willful rejection. There is a point beyond which God will not go.

How can one know he has not committed the unpardonable sin? If a person who has never received Jesus into his life hears the gospel preached and there is a feeling, a hunger, if there is a desire for something more than he has, a longing for purpose and meaning, God is still working with him. Why? Because that feeling and hunger is the Holy Spirit dealing with him.

Remember, Christians cannot commit the unpardonable sin because the Holy Spirit lives in their hearts. Only unbelievers can commit that sin.

Off The Record

Driving through Texas one day we saw a tornado coming straight toward us. Quickly we jumped out of the car and crouched beside a fence. Just before the funnel-shaped cloud reached us it veered away passing directly over a small shack and leaving a mass of kindling wood.

We hurried over to see if anyone had been in it. Where the shack had stood was a hole in the ground, and at the bottom an old man, eyes tightly closed, clutched a piece of timber. "Hey, are you all right?" I yelled.

Opening his eyes, he looked around cautiously. "I guess so." "Was anyone else here?" "Just me and God," the old man said, "and we've been having a long conversation."

E. A. Farmer

As two boys, Dick and Tom, were playing one day, Dick started to slip some candy from another little boy's pocket. Tom said, "No, no! Thou shalt not steal!"

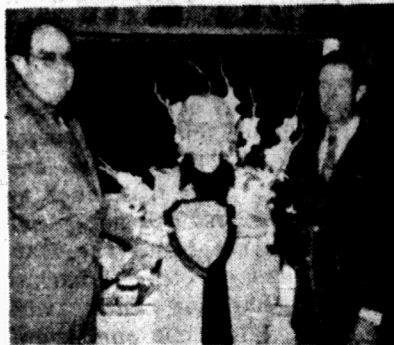
Later Dick said, "I wish I had Johnny's new football."

Tom answered, "Thou shalt not covet!"

Still later in the day, Dick found a stray cat and decided to chop its head off with the axe—but Tom stopped him with "No! No! What God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

"Christian Competition"

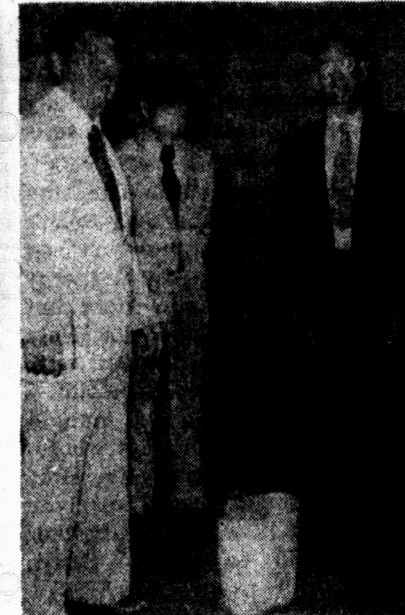
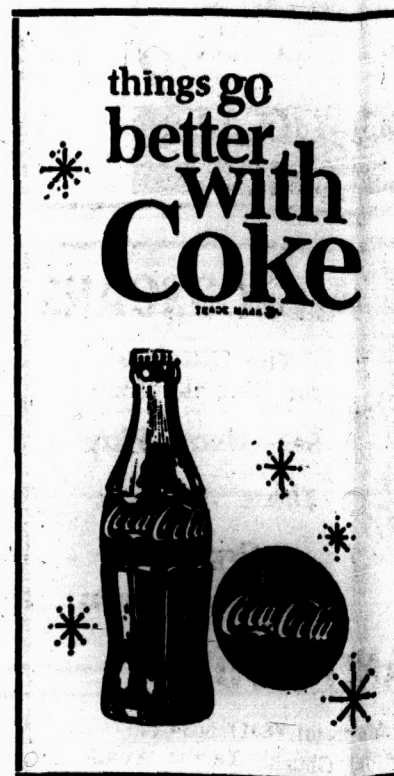
Mississippi State Basketball Team Vs. Athletes in Action/West Dec. 15, 1975
MSU's Humphrey Coliseum 7:30 p. m.
Admission: \$2--Adult \$1--Student
AIA/West is an affiliate of the Campus Crusade for Christ & is located in Tustin, Calif.



SS Teacher 45 Years

Tishomingo Chapel near Corinth recently honored Mrs. Vadie Sherard, center, who taught the ladies' class in Sunday School there for 45 years. Paul Waldon, left, Sunday School director, and Rev. Rudy James, pastor, right, presented her with a plaque. When the church was organized in 1919 Mrs. Sherard was a charter member, and she has been a faithful and dedicated member since that time. She is the mother of two daughters, Mrs. Amos Nelms and Miss Valeria Sherard. The latter is a missionary serving in Alaska.

This passage may seem to be harsh, but it is to be taken in all seriousness. Jesus is not saying that God is ever unwilling to forgive but that man can render himself unforgivable. "To close one's eyes is not to put out the light but it is to put out one's sight." This is the principle behind "the unpardonable sin." It is for one to cut himself off from the one who alone can lead him to repentance.



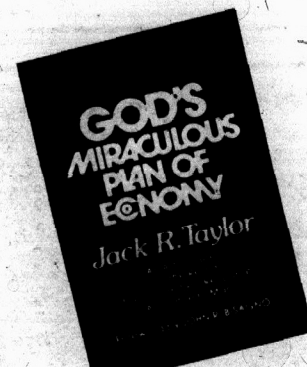
Kokomo Dedicates New Pastorium

Kokomo Church, Kokomo, recently held a special service, dedicating their new pastorium. Those who helped to burn the note were Rev. Jerry D. Revere, former pastor; Glen Tynes, treasurer; J. E. Evans, chairman of deacons; and Rev. Gregory S. Smith, pastor. Winford Forbes, chairman of the building committee, led the dedication prayer. Mr. Revere preached the dedication sermon.

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By Joe Abrams, Clinton

And they went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed (Acts 16:40).

The verse above tells of Paul and Silas leaving the prison at Philippi after their harrowing experience there and returning to the house of Lydia where the other disciples and some new converts were staying.

The story of Paul and Silas in the Philippian jail is one of the best known in the Bible but many readers may not have realized that it was, among other things, a true example of Christian experience that brought many compensating values to them.

Even though the conditions in Philippi were hostile to proclaiming the Gospel, Paul and Silas went forth in courage and boldness and soon found themselves in jail.

The first value that came to them was the strengthening of their faith. Their faith must have been increased as they sang praises and prayed during the dark hours of the night in the prison. Doing the will of God under difficult circumstances always strengthens the faith of a Christian.

Another value we see is that this experience positioned them to be able to render a unique and valuable help to others. In the verse above there is an amazing point. It does not say that when they returned to Lydia's house where the brethren were that the brethren comforted them. It rather says that they comforted the brethren. It is always so. Only those who have been with the Lord in experience are in a position to comfort others.

Another value that stands out in the story is that "God rescues His own." We believe that God sent the earthquake that resulted in the freeing of the two disciples. This does not mean that God always rescues every one of his children in difficult circumstances but it does prove that God can and does rescue his own when it is his will. We could observe here that Paul and Silas were doing God's will and that He sent the earthquake as an answer to their prayers and to reassure their faith.

The story reaches its climax and highest value when we witness the "triumph of the Gospel" in the conversion and baptism of the jailer and his family. That is the highest purpose of all Christian experience. Even though Paul and Silas went through a traumatic experience, we feel that they would say it was worth it all because of the final triumph of the Gospel.

There are many values that occur to those Christians who are willing to put Christ first and venture out with courage and boldness on His behalf.

Central, Brookhaven To Present Cantata

The Sanctuary Choir of Central Church, Brookhaven will present the Christmas Cantata "The Joyous News of Christmas" December 14 at 11 a.m. The Cantata will be under direction of Mike Grim, minister of music and youth, accompanied by Mrs. Barbara Scaffidel.

Solos will be presented by Mrs. Carolyn Clark, Mrs. Doris Foster, Mrs. Peggy Dunaway, Mrs. Flora Mae Needles, Mrs. Brenda Bryant, Larry Welborne, Doug Patrick and Mike Grim.

Mrs. Juanita Schilling will be the narrator. Rev. H. Glen Schilling is pastor.

REVIVAL RESULTS

Southside Church, Jackson: Dr. Fred D. Fowler, pastor; 18 additions — 13 for baptism and 5 by letter; many rededications; Dr. Howard Aultman, Columbia, evangelist; Dallas Rayborn, Hattiesburg, conducting the music.

Mt. Zion Homecoming

Mt. Zion Church, Florence, will have annual homecoming on December 14. Rev. T. C. Pinson will bring the special morning message. Dinner on the grounds will be followed by an afternoon service.

Foreign Mission Board REPORTS

FOREIGN MISSIONS INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW

"WE NEED MORE PREACHERS!"

That is the call which is emphasized in recent personnel requests sent from mission fields to the Foreign Mission Board. Although there are needs for teachers, physicians, agricultural workers and others, the dominant need is for preachers with pastoral training and experience.

Missionary appointment is open to persons between the ages of 24 and 39 who out of their relationship with Jesus Christ, and a commitment to share His love with others, sense God's leadership in considering missionary service.

Candidates for missionary service need college and seminary training and good experience in job skills they wish to share overseas. Wives are encouraged to have a college degree, but need 60 hours of college and/or seminary work to qualify. Children should be no more than twelve years old.

The need is great, the laborers few.

"How shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?"

For additional information, write Louis R. Cobbs at the Foreign Mission Board.



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